



Father campaigns for new law over motoring deaths

LIFE BAN CALL ON KILLER DRIVERS

Report by Richard Guttridge

THE father of a young woman who was killed by a reckless motorist racing at 100mph has launched a campaign for a life ban for killer drivers.

Gerard McManus says those found to have caused somebody's death because of their dangerous driving should never be allowed to get behind the wheel again.

He wants to see a new law banning those convicted of causing death by dangerous driving from the road for life. His daughter Rebecca McManus, of Oldbury, was waiting at a bus stop when a Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution sports car lost control and drove into her and her friend. The 21-year-old student was just weeks away from graduating when she died. Friend Harriet Barnsley suffered life-changing injuries.

Mr McManus has launched a petition which was signed by almost 700 people in less than a week. It needs 10,000 names to be debated in Parliament.

Garage manager Sukvinder Mannan, aged 34, from Halesowen, who was at the wheel of the Mitsubishi, was jailed for eight years and banned from the road for 10 after being convicted of causing Rebecca's death on Hagley Road West, Bearwood, in May 2014. He had been racing another car at 101mph in a 40mph zone.

Privilege

Mr McManus, 53, said: "It wasn't just a momentary lapse of concentration. He will serve four years of an eight-year sentence, he will get his liberty back, probably take up employment but I don't think he should ever be allowed to get behind the wheel of a car again. He should not have that privilege again, or anybody else convicted of death by dangerous driving."

Mr McManus said he did not want other families to experience the same pain that his family had because of the actions of dangerous drivers.

He said: "Families who have to go through losing somebody in a fatal collision – it stays with them for the rest of their lives."

The petition can be viewed at www.petition.parliament.uk/petitions/191856

Rebecca, a promising poet, had just completed a degree in English at the University of East Anglia, Norwich.



Rebecca McManus

TIMELY MOVE TO GIVE CHURCH SALVAGED CLOCK



Rev Katryn Leclezio, right, with Christine Adshead, Paul Millward and Simon Davies with the clock set for St Peter's Church in Cradley

A CHURCH is set to be given a new lease of life, thanks to a donation from a neighbouring place of worship.

Renovations at St Peter's Church in Church Road, Cradley, have been made possible thanks to St Luke's in Reddall Hill, which is being demolished.

The tower clock has been salvaged, as well as the organ blower and fan, items St Peter's has been without since they broke in 2011.

Rev Katryn Leclezio has welcomed the move but said replacing the 250kg organ blower will not be an easy – or cheap – process.

It will need to be lifted about 24ft and pulled through a hatch into the loft of the church, while work will also have to be done on the electrics.

The clock needs some repair work to its glass. The church hopes it can be linked

with the current ring of eight bells so that it chimes at the correct times and can be illuminated at night.

To cover the cost of the work, the church has launched a crowdfunding campaign. "We are appealing to the many people who live locally to help us raise the money to restore this piece of our heritage," said Rev Leclezio.

The church also needs at least £7,000 to refurbish the 1933 Compton Pipe Organ.

STABBING

Man appears in court over death of partner

A MAN denied murdering his partner when he appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Ronald Cooke, aged 54, of Granville Road, Old Hill, will appear before the court again on August 7. He was charged with murder following the incident on February 6 when 54-year-old Tina Billingham died after arriving at a doctor's surgery in Rowley Regis with stab wounds.

He pleaded not guilty to one charge of murder in relation to the death of Ms Billingham in court on Monday.

ASSAULT

Machete attack as gang chase victim

A MAN was attacked with a machete after being chased by a gang near Halesowen.

The victim was left seriously injured and needed hospital treatment.

Police believe that the man, aged 22, from Birmingham, was targeted.

Police were called to Carter's Lane, between Halesowen and Quinton, following reports of a disorder outside the Old Crown Inn. Detectives are seeking five or six men who chased the victim at around 1.15am on March 25.

COUNCIL

MP pleased by move to keep leisure centre

HALESOWEN and Rowley Regis MP James Morris has said he is 'pleased' that Dudley Council will keep Halesowen Leisure Centre open.

The council has backed down over plans to close the leisure centres in Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen and build two new facilities, after almost 5,000 people signed a petition against the proposals. Mr Morris said: "I am very pleased to hear of Dudley Council's U-turn on closing Halesowen's Leisure Centre. Residents, campaigners, councillors and myself knew that this was an ill-thought out idea."

● U-turn – Page 3

INSIDE

TOP OF THE POTS ROAD CAMPAIGN



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Vicious thug loses appeal over jail term



Marlon Bills - 24 years jail

A THUG from Dudley who threw his ex-girlfriend from a third-floor window before attacking two police officers with a knife has had his 24-year sentence upheld by top judges.

London's Appeal Court heard that Marlon Brant Bills, 45, of Himley Road, had been locked up after Birmingham Crown Court was told that Bills lured Lisa Turner to his flat despite being subject to a restraining order. "That was a bad mistake because he used the opportunity to carry out a determined and ruthless attack, which nearly cost her

life", said Mrs Justice Chema-Grubb. He terrorised his victim with a knife, threatening to kill and rape her.

Ms Turner tried to defend herself but was overpowered by Bills, who pushed her through the bathroom window.

She managed to grab hold of the sill with one arm but Bills 'deliberately peeled his terrified victim's fingers off the window sill' and she fell three floors onto the concrete below, suffering serious back injuries.

When police arrived Bills attacked them with a knife, carrying on his fren-

zied assault even after being Tasered.

Bills' case went to the Appeal Court as he challenged his prison sentence, claiming it was far too tough. He had been convicted of wounding and two counts of attempted wounding. Bills was also ordered to serve an extra five years on licence following his release.

Dismissing the appeal, Mrs Justice Chema-Grubb, sitting with Lady Justice Rafferty and Judge Jeffrey Pegden QC, said: "The total sentence, although severe, was just and proportionate in respect of this very grave offending."

Interchange repairs after just two years

QUESTIONS are being asked about why a bus and rail interchange which opened less than two years ago has already had to shut for road surface repairs.

Passengers have been left frustrated at having to catch buses from temporary stops in Cradley Heath while the town's interchange is closed.

Cones have been put up at the entrance to the Cradley Heath Interchange on Forge Lane during resurfacing work that started last week. Disruption is expected to continue for another two weeks.

Transport for West Midlands said a problem had been identified with the surface of the car park and that most of the work had been scheduled over Easter to try and keep disruption to a minimum.

But it has left some questioning why improvement work was needed so soon after the opening of the interchange in July 2015, which saw Cradley Heath bus station undergo a major revamp.

Ward councillor Anne Shackleton said: "I was taken aback when I read the suggestion that it needed resurfacing."

Barriers

"Clearly, for such a new venture it is hard to believe it needs resurfacing."

Phil Tonks posted a picture of the bus station, blocked off by barriers and cones, on Twitter and asked: "Why does Cradley Heath Interchange require resurfacing already? And three weeks to do it?"

Transport for West Midlands spokesman Mark Langford said: "A problem was identified with the surface of the car park and is now being rectified. These are remedial works being carried out under warranty and there is no cost to the council taxpayer."

"We apologise for any inconvenience but work has been co-ordinated



Conc city - Cradley Heath Interchange during the Easter surface repair works, which are under warranty Pic: Phil Tonks

so the majority of it will take place during the Easter break to minimise disruption to passengers."

The bus and rail station were brought together as part of the major £1.9 million scheme to create the interchange. Passenger information and waiting areas were improved as part of the work.

Meanwhile, parking is set to be banned near to the bus station following persistent complaints.

Vehicles have been towed away from Cradley Heath bus station as they have created difficulties for

buses entering and leaving. Cars parked outside have also led to traffic problems, which has prompted Sandwell Council to act.

Bosses have confirmed measures, which could include a red route, will be brought in to try to put a stop to the problem.

Sandwell Council said it was investigating measures to prevent motorists parking on the highway preventing safe access and egress to the site.

Cradley Heath's Councillor Shackleton welcomed the action.

She said: "The police have had to tow vehicles away because it constituted a grave danger to pedestrians."

"We are anxious for these measures to be put in place and believe they are well ahead on them."

She added: "I have pressured Transport for West Midlands to look into parking at the station which is not sufficient for the number of users."

"People are encouraged to use public transport but there just isn't enough parking spaces."

● Top of the Pots - Page 4

Crime spree burglar is jailed for three years

A 34-year-old man, who went on a crime spree while in a drug induced stupor, has been sent to prison for three years.

Shaun Mitton broke into a house in Cemetery Road, Lye, and drove off in the owner's Toyota Corolla after stealing the car key during the burglary, a judge heard.

Four days after that February 20 raid he smashed a window at Cradley Heath Labour Club, searched the bar and escaped with three bottles of spirits, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mitton struck again, on February 26, breaking a window at the Indiluxe restaurant in Stourbridge and stealing a laptop computer.

But the thief left a trail of clues for police investigating the crime, revealed Miss Heather Chamberlin, prosecuting.

His fingerprint was on the frame of the window through which he climbed to get into the house. A smear of blood that matched his DNA was found at the Labour Club.

Mitton, who had several previous convictions including two for burglary, was recognised by officers when they saw CCTV images of the restaurant break-in.

Mr Antoine Muller, defending, said: "He admits being given several chances to get off drugs but cannot get on top of his addiction, although he still hopes to conquer it one day."

Mitton from Highgate Road, Dudley, pleaded guilty to three burglaries and the theft of the car. He was sent to prison by Judge Simon Ward.

Bell stolen from church grounds

A HISTORIC bell has been stolen after brazen thieves broke into the grounds of a church and made off with it.

The bell, which is thought to be 600 years old, was taken from St James' Church on Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.

The theft has left church leaders scratching their heads about how such a heavy object could have been taken.

Crooks smashed through the church's main gates and ripped the bell, which is believed to have been cast in Worcester in 1425, away from its wooden structure.

It was one of the original bells at Dudley's Top Church before moving to St James'. It had to be removed over safety fears around 15 years ago but remained as a feature in the church grounds.

Easter music in concert at church

A CHURCH is to host a performance of Gabriel Fauré's moving Requiem on Good Friday.

The free admission concert, which will also include other music, will take place at St Paul's Church in Long Lane, Blackheath at 7.30pm.

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Appeal over pot-bellied burglar with fake police ID

A CROOK who is believed to have been behind a series of distraction burglaries posed as a police officer to dupe elderly residents into letting him into their homes during raids in the Black Country and Birmingham.

It is thought he carries fake ID and claims to be an under-cover officer needing to use a home as a lookout. Once inside he searched properties and stole cash, jewellery and credit cards.

The man has been described as white, around 6ft tall and of a heavy build, and has been described by several victims as having a large 'pot belly'.

Detectives are linking 13 burglaries that have happened since March – four in Sandwell, four in Birmingham and five in Coventry.

It is also believed that he has an accomplice who acts as his lookout and the two men have driven away in a car similar to a silver Rover 45 or 400.

Detective Constable Tom Lyons, from West Midlands Police's CID, said: "The worrying thing is that the man appears to have some kind of fake identification with him. The victims say that he is very convincing and, on nearly all occasions, he claims that he is an under-cover officer and needs to use the house as a surveillance lookout.

"What is unusual is that the offences have happened across the West Midlands and not in one specific area.

"We really need people to come forward if they have any information so that we can put a stop to his crimes."

Queen's honour for health boss

THE chairman of Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has been officially appointed as Member of the Order of the British Empire.

Doctor David Hegarty was presented with the award by HRH The Prince of Wales, after being named on Her Majesty the Queen's New Year honours list.

The MBE was awarded for Dr Hegarty's services to health, which includes his roles as being a GP Partner of the Wychbury Medical Group, chairman of the West Midlands Clinical Senate and chairman of Dudley CCG, which serves a population of 315,000 people.

Dr Hegarty described receiving his MBE as a 'genuinely humbling experience'.

New spring ale is going on sale

A BLACK Country brewery has created a new beer for the spring. Hopden Ale will be on sale at Holden's pubs by the end of this month. The 4.9 per cent ale is named for Holden's Hopden Brewery in Woodsetton.

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Brexit 'madness' blamed for more hate crimes



PCC David Jamieson

FIGURES revealing a spike in hate crime in the West Midlands after June's EU referendum vote have prompted West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson to describe Brexit as 'total madness'.

Around 500 incidents of hate crime were reported to West Midlands Police in the month following the decision to leave the EU. But since then the number of recorded offences has halved, as revealed in a report identifying the challenges of Brexit to policing.

Discussing the report at the Strategic Policing and Crime Board, Mr Jamieson

said: "We are taking a huge leap backwards into an abyss of unknown depth. It was an act of total madness leaving the EU, and we have to ensure that what divides us from Europe does not divide us from each other."

Unsettling

West Midlands Police Chief Constable Dave Thompson said: "We would encourage people to come forward where they feel there is hate crime. It is an unsettling period and we are all cognisant of that."

Asked what he thought were the main

potential challenges facing the force as a result of Brexit, he identified the UK's integral role in the European Union's law enforcement agency, Europol.

He said: "We find the partnership with Europol really quite important."

Policing minister Brandon Lewis has already confirmed that the UK will seek to continue membership of Europol.

However, non-EU states are full members and cannot lead any of Europol's operational projects. Approximately half of the current 13 operational Europol projects are currently led, or co-led, by UK police.

Leisure centres saved as outcry sparks U-turn

DUDLEY Council has backed down over its controversial leisure centres plans for the borough.

Proposals to close leisure centres in Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen and build two new facilities in their place sparked uproar.

Council bosses insisted 'all options' had been on the table and that it had followed Sport England's recommendations by proposing to move forward with two centres.

Now regeneration chief Councillor Khurshid Ahmed says he has listened to the views of the public on the controversial plan.

Also, opposition Conservative and UKIP councillors had insisted they would not support the two leisure centres option – putting the controlling Labour group in a difficult position as it does not command a majority on the council.

Councillor Ahmed said it was possible a new facility would still be built and two others refurbished.

The change in plan is believed to have been prompted by the weight of opposition from the public and opposition councillors. This included a campaign to save the centres led by former councillor Tracy Wood.

Almost 5,000 people signed a petition against the council's original closure and build plan, which bosses said would save money.

Renovated

Councillor Ahmed said: "We want to go forward with three as they are and that will be the guidance given to the scrutiny committee. Some might be renovated and improved.

"The view was if we had modern facilities they might become easier to manage and attract more customers. It was recommended by Sport England that we needed to be looking at two.

All options are still on the table. Until you test something, you don't know. It is important to get different views and we welcome that. But they need to be cost-neutral services."

Councillor Ahmed said council chiefs had been locked in talks with the opposition over the way forward.

He added: "Doing nothing is not an option and we believe that residents in Dudley deserve better.

"We have been having cross-party discussions about this and will be referring this to the scrutiny committee to consider all options."

Vet to feature on new TV dog show



TV work for Dudley vet Girish Thakral, a partner at Blacks Vets, with one of the dogs he has helped, Amber

A BLACK Country-based vets is to be part of a new TV programme which showcases pet owners and their pooches as they complete a series of challenges.

Blacks Vets, which has branches in Sedgley, Dudley and Oldbury, is set to appear on BBC Two show, Me and My Dog: The Ultimate Contest.

The firm's partner, Girish Thakral will appear on the show after he appeared on Channel

4's 'The Job Interview' last year. Now the practice has been asked to provide veterinary expertise on the new BBC four-part show, that sees dogs and their owners compete in a range of mental and physical challenges.

Presented by Chris Packham and set in the Lake District, the TV show is being aired on Tuesday night. It sees eight hopeful contestants and their canine companions battle it out in a series of

challenges that tests their agility, training and, ultimately, their bond with their owner.

With 23 years of veterinary experience and special expertise in cardiology, Mr Thakral is a familiar face to clients at Blacks' flagship Accredited Veterinary Hospital in Dudley.

He said: "My focus was on making sure that the dogs remained happy and healthy throughout all of the activities."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman denies hiding suspect

A WOMAN from Dudley has denied assisting a man accused of murdering Birmingham teenager Kenichi Phillips.

Shaleana Samuels, aged 25, is charged with allowing Isaiah Wright-Young to hide at her flat between October 6 and October 7.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court, she pleaded not guilty to that offence and three unrelated counts of possession with intent to supply drugs. Samuels, of Elmbridge Way, Dudley, was granted unconditional bail and will stand trial on November 27.

Bell stolen from church grounds

A 600-year-old bell has been stolen from its position on display at a church in Dudley.

Police have launched an appeal after the bell was taken from the grounds of St James' Church, Wolverhampton Street.

It is believed thieves broke through the gates at the church to steal the bell overnight on Monday. It is not known how they managed to lift the heavy object.

Cast around 1425, the bell was previously at Dudley's Top Church before its move to St James'.

Grand Slam Darts tickets go on sale

TICKETS for the Grand Slam of Darts go on general sale this today (Thursday).

The 32-player cross-code event sees stars from both the PDC and BDO systems competing across nine days at the Wolverhampton Civic Hall, also televised live on Sky Sports.

Tickets are limited to eight per person available from the Wolves Civic Box Office on 0870 3207000 or online at via the www.theticketfactory.com/PDC website.

TV comic has Serious Joker date at town hall

TV comic Lee Nelson is to bring his new tour to Dudley later this year.

The comedian, real name Simon Brodwin, hit the headlines for a number of high-profile stunts, including throwing fake money at ex-FIFA boss Sepp Blatter. He brings his show Serious Joker to Dudley Town Hall on December 1. Tickets costing £20.

For more information on all of the shows at Dudley Town Hall, or to book tickets, visit www.boroughhalls.co.uk or call (01384) 812812.

Charge over stabbing

A MAN has been charged with wounding after a 28-year-old man suffered stab wounds near Netherton Health Centre on March 12.

Marcus New, aged 24, of Washwood Heath Road, Birmingham, will appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on April 20.

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COUNTY NEWS

Vigilance urged on dumped waste

FARMERS, landowners, businesses, and members of the public in the West Midlands are being asked to be more vigilant after a number of incidents where large amounts of processed or baled waste have been dumped.

Over the last 12 months the Environment Agency in the West Midlands has seen an increase of illegally dumped waste on public and private land. Anyone with information on illegal waste activities, can log onto www.crimestoppers-uk.org or call 0800 555 111 or via the Environment Agency Incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

Time to help birds and bees

BARRATT Homes, in partnership with the RSPB, is encouraging residents of new homes in the Black Country to put a spring in the step of local wildlife this season.

The homebuilders have teamed up with the RSPB to give customers five top tips to create a home for wildlife in their garden this spring and do their bit for British wildlife.

They include opening a bee B&B, creating a mini pond and looking after butterflies. For step-by-step guides to each of activity, visit www.rspb.org.uk/homes.

Primary choice: £53k premium

PARENTS in the West Midlands face paying a premium of almost £53,000 to live near a primary school rated as outstanding, research has found.

Those in the region are paying the highest 'primary school premium' to live in an admission area of a school that is rated by Ofsted as outstanding, compared with living near a school that requires improvement.

The research combines house asking price figures, from website Rightmove, with data provided by 192.com.

It's that sinking feeling

Councils can now share in £500m fund

TOP OF THE POTS

THE Chronicle's mission to highlight the worst potholes in our region is off to a flying start with readers flagging up some real road horrors.

Last week we featured many pictures and reports of potholes sent in by readers from areas such as Cannock, Wolverhampton, Kingswinford and Bloxwich.

Today we can reveal more pothole-plagued hotspots endured by motorists every day.

Michelle Adkins highlighted the problems around the busy Hill Top island in Hednesford. This picture, top left, shows just one of a string of similar potholes which have to be tackled at the island where the Rugeley Road and East Cannock Road meet.

Horrendous

The mother-of-one said: "It's a real bone-shaker. The whole island and the roads around it are covered in holes of varying depths. It looks more like a track than a main A-road in parts."

"I can't believe that main roads are allowed to get in this terrible state and then are just left. This island is next to two schools and a garage as well as being the road to Rugeley. There is so much traffic on it and cars are bouncing in and out of horrendous holes."

The island is less than two miles from the notorious Five Ways Island in Heath Hayes which itself has received 38 reports to the county council about the condition of the road.

Both islands were recently pointed out to Staffordshire County Council highways chiefs by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling who was 'assured that both are scheduled for work'.

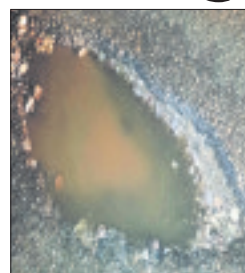
Rachel Jenkins also shared her picture with us on Twitter of a damaged car. She said: "This happened in 2013



Just one of many where Rugeley Road and East Cannock Road meet



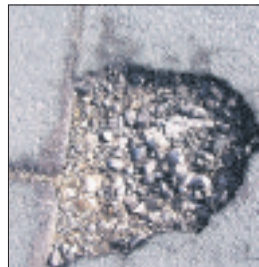
Damaged to a tyre done in Cat and Kittens Lane, Featherstone



Craig Winter sent in this from Bardy Lane in Longdon



Colin Woodward of Hednesford had to replace a tyre costing over £116



Just one of many in Heath Street and Blewitt Street, Hednesford



This one in Hednesford with phone to give idea of the depth

in Cat and Kittens Lane, Featherstone, and the pothole is still there now."

Tithebarn Road in Rugeley, WS15 2QW is particularly bad, says Mr S Davies, with a huge deep pothole right in the centre of the road and several others in the road too.

"It is like being on a dirt track as we drive along there, and only four weeks ago, the front suspension spring snapped on our car, which cost us almost £200 to have repaired."

The A499 between Kingswinford and Kinver has a number of potholes. The worst are just before the

junction with Lawnswood Road and after the traffic lights at the Stewpony, says reader C Nash.

"Both potholes have been reported to South Staffordshire Council but to date no repair work has been done. They have been classed as non urgent but the size and depth of them would suggest that they are a significant health and safety risk particularly to those on bicycles."

Colin Woodward said he had contacted MP Amanda Milling about the state of the roads in Hednesford. He has had to replace a tyre costing more than £116, due to hitting a pothole in the dark. Craig Winter

from Rugeley sent in a picture of a bad pothole in Bardy Lane, Longdon which he hit last week and had to buy a new tyre.

The Chronicle wants to identify the top 10 pothole blackspots in the region to flag up to our councils and we need your help. If you know of any pothole-ridden routes or deep holes please let us know. You can email details of the road, preferably with a picture, your name and any comments you would like to make to Sue.Attwater@expressandstar.co.uk or drop us a line at Editorial, The Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

AS public uproar over the state of our roads continues, councils in the Black Country and Staffordshire have been reminded they can bid for a share of almost £500 million to deal with repairs.

The pot of cash is being made available by the Department of Transport to help fill potholes and make other road repairs. It is hoped the funding, which will be for schemes across England from 2018 to 2020, will also help tackle congestion.

Transport Minister Andrew Jones said: "We are investing record amounts on our roads - spending more than £23 billion on providing better journeys for motorists. We are also committing a further £1.3 billion up to 2020 to cut congestion and provide important upgrades to ensure our roads are fit for the future."

Meanwhile, a major roadworks scheme lasting 18 months has been announced to improve a busy section of the A449, which is a gateway into Wolverhampton. Changes will be made to the road between Junction 2 of the M54, at Fordhouses, and Springfield Lane. Residents and businesses in the area will be consulted on the details of the scheme before it gets underway in September.

Council bosses say they will seek to minimise disruption while the works are carried out. The aim is to improve access to i54, the Wolverhampton Business Park, and the Junction 2 employment area. The scheme is expected to be funded by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership 'Local Growth Fund'. A drop-in session to see more details and discuss the scheme will be held on April 18, at St James Church, Taunton Avenue, Fordhouses between 2pm and 8pm. For further information or to send a comment call the council on 01902 551155 or email transport.strategy@wolverhampton.gov.uk.

Roadworks on a stretch of the M6 have been completed in time for Easter. Highways England said the work to repair damaged concrete and waterproofing material at Junction 7 for Great Barr ended ahead of schedule.

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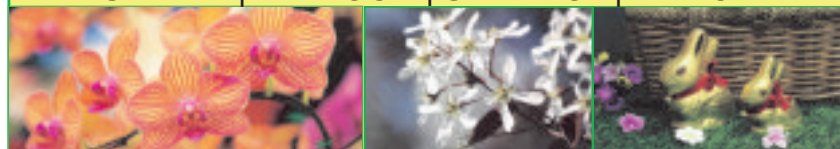


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Contracts on the way to revamp high-rise blocks

A £9.7 MILLION contract is set to be approved, enabling essential refurbishments to take place at a group of Oldbury high rise block of flats.

At a cabinet meeting Sandwell Council are expected to award the contract enabling work to take place at the tower blocks at Lion Farm.

The programme of external renovations at Hackwood, Harry Price and Wallace Houses include new windows, external cladding, improvements to balconies, a new roof and additional car parking.

The council report recommending the scheme also states: "These works will see greater energy efficiency, which will assist in lowering tenant's fuel bills."

Internally the high rises will see the replacement of lifts to each block, upgrading fire protection, decoration and lighting in the communal areas and corridors, while security will be updated to include a new door entry system.

Redundant storage sheds on the ground floors will be removed to create four units with two beds and three with one bed. Currently the 12 storey blocks have around 70 units in each. If approved, the renovations are expected to begin in June, for 76 weeks.

Free bowel cancer test offer ignored

MORE than half of people in parts of the Black Country have ignored the offer of a free bowel cancer test.

Take-up rates were as low as 42.6 per cent in Sandwell and 49.7 per cent in Wolverhampton.

Free postal screening requests were sent to households across the West Midlands to try and encourage more people to get tested. The figures contrasted with other parts of the region, such as Shropshire which has a 60 per cent return rate.

Health officials say the condition is now the nation's second biggest cancer killer, but it can be treated and cured if diagnosed early.



Jonas chats with one of the youngsters during his visit



The player outside the school which will be helped by his charity



The 34-year-old in Bhagwanpura



Putting the children through their paces



Jonas is given a warm welcome from the children



The charity ambassador introduces himself to some inquisitive youngsters

Jonas kicks off kits appeal

FORMER West Bromwich Albion defender Jonas Olsson has set up a charity to help some of India's poorest children.

The Jonas Olsson Foundation will work alongside the Delhi charity Breathe Easy India that helps improve living conditions at the Babu School in the Bhagwanpura slum of the capital. The lofty Swedish

centre-back, who recently left the Baggies after nine successful years, visited Delhi last summer with club charity The Albion Foundation.

Touched by what he witnessed, the 34-year-old is now planning to help keep children healthy and safe through football. His charity will provide medical examinations and nutritious meals, as well as football coaching at a local sports facility.

And he's urged Baggies fans to

help by donating children's football shirts, short and boots to 'kit banks' at the club's ticket office, the stadium megastore or the Merry Hill club shop.

"As soon as I visited Babu School I knew I would not be able to rest until I had done something significant to help the children there," said Olsson.

"We are not naive and know that their problems cannot be solved overnight. Football is the driving force for

the programme and will be the focus around which we implement a number of social projects.

"However, we know that sport alone will not assist them in their day-to-day lives. Sanitation, healthcare and nutrition are areas we are fully focused on improving.

"This is going to be one hell of a journey Baggies fans and I need your help," Olsson was a fan favourite at The Hawthorns and helped estab-

lish the club in the Premier League. The club recently mutually agreed to terminate his contract three months early so he could return to Sweden to play for Djurgarden IF.

But he is retaining strong links with the Baggies through his new charity. Breathe Easy founder Aanchal Bathia said: "Jonas was a gentleman during his visit to Delhi last May. The children immediately took him to their hearts."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



10p for a carrier bag – that’s not a bargain

OKAY, since October 2015 larger retailers have been obliged to charge 5p for carrier bags. One of David Cameron’s madder “green” ideas I would suggest. But still, you can’t blame the shops for it, can you? But in that case, why is one major retailer charging customers 10p for each bag, double that dictated by government? Home Bargains, I would love an explanation.

OF course, charging for carrier bags is not an entirely new concept. You will probably remember that back in the 80s, Kwik Save used to charge for the bags, but there was never any pretence that it was about environmentalism. The argument was that by keeping costs down, Kwik Save could offer lower prices, and give customers a choice about whether they needed bags.

More importantly, Kwik Save also offered customers a selection of used cardboard boxes, free of charge. That’s what I call a green policy. And when you moved house, you could always go into Kwik Save for a tube of peppermints, and walk out with a giant box to put your belongings in. Why don’t today’s supermarkets do the same? The other week I saw a member of staff in one of the big four who was stamping on these perfectly usable box to throw them away. Which doesn’t seem very green at all.

OF course, infuriating though it is, the carrier bag nonsense pales into insignificance compared to the lunacy of government attempts to tell us what cars to drive. Back at the turn of the century, Gordon Brown was telling us to all buy diesels, offering tax incentives to make the switch. Still kept the limo for himself, just like they all do, but diesel was definitely the way forward.

Then, in 2009, it was decided that this was not enough, and the scrappage scheme was introduced. I hate scrappage, for two reasons. Firstly, because of the stupid ungrammatical name. Since when has scrappage been a word? In the hate stakes, it’s right up there with signage, stakeholder and train station.

But secondly, I hate the destructive side of it, the way more than 500 old Jaguars and 100 old Porsches were needlessly destroyed just because the politicians thought we should drive diesel hatchbacks. I even feel a tinge of sadness at the lost Austin Maestros and Lada Rivas. Surely if they had survived this long, they warranted a little more respect.

Anyway, almost a decade later, scrappage is back on the agenda. Diesel is now public enemy number one, and the Government is reportedly considering using taxpayers’ money to persuade people to scrap the dirty cars that a few years ago politicians were telling us to buy. Perhaps it might be an idea to scrap a few of the meddling politicians instead?

Muggers just making money without doing any work



Mary Berry feast but would hubby Paul prefer a bucket of KFC?



Doctor Who companion Pearl Mackie ticks so many politically-correct boxes



Voters must decide if they want to keep this serial defector Douglas Carswell

Desperate? No way, just plain wicked

BEING mugged is traumatic and our hearts go out to Jeremy Corbyn’s 23-year-old son Tommy whose mobile phone was snatched by a thief on a moped. But I doubt if many share Tommy’s view that “I’m sure the guy who did it was more desperate than bad.” Behold, the enduring woolly-left belief that all crime is the result of society’s inequalities or government policy and all criminals are to be pitied. The truth is that some people are plain wicked.

BY coincidence, as Tommy Corbyn was empathising with his mugger, two other motorbike-riding phone thieves were being jailed in London. They had snatched 18 mobiles in a single day. Using the Corbyn analysis, they were presumably 18 times more desperate than Tommy’s attacker and 18 times more to be pitied. Or maybe they were just a pair of thugs out to make money without doing any work.

DOCTOR Who’s new companion Pearl Mackie will be a mixed-race lesbian who calls herself Bill. Rarely in the history of drama has one character ticked so many politically-correct boxes. Curiously, we are also told to expect a return of some of the Doctor’s scariest enemies, the Cybermen. Surely in these enlightened times that should be Cyberpersons. Or Cyberfolk? Or plain Cyber?

I WROTE recently about “the British Isles.” A reader says this term is no longer politically correct. My apologies. I was referring, of course, to the British/Irish Atlantic archipelago. That really trips off the tongue, doesn’t it?

CELEBRATING her golden wedding, Mary Berry prepared a perfect banquet of perfect plump king prawns, perfectly pink lamb and a perfect cream cake glazed with mirror-perfect chocolate icing. It was all so relentlessly perfect. I found myself hoping to see her hubby Paul

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



hiding in his shed with a bucket of KFC.

AS the food industry comes under yet more pressure to reduce sugar levels, I am reminded of that childhood treat of yore, the well-buttered banana-and-sugar sandwich. It was even better without the banana, wasn’t it?

A TEAM of British scientists has created a sieve capable of turning sea water into fresh drinking water. Based on the wonder material graphene, the sieve will undergo trials to see how effective it is. Already, there is talk of an end to worldwide droughts, prosperity for the developing world and deserts turned into lush, blooming breadbaskets, consigning famine to history. However, some of us of a certain age will be thinking: Tomorrow’s World. Remember it? It was the BBC science series, launched in 1965, which introduced viewers to a succession of breakthroughs and inventions which were allegedly going to transform the planet. Maybe some did but the abiding memory is of Tomorrow’s World being a sort of Sargasso Sea from which bright ideas never reappeared. Moral: some concepts simply never make it from theory to practice. Today, a dazzling British invention is poised to transform our planet. Again.

BLAME human nature. If you offer people £300 a day to do nothing, they will take it. I doubt if anyone is surprised at the latest report showing some members of the House of Lords are filling their pockets simply by turning up for a few minutes. The Lords is too big, too lazy and far too undemocratic but it is also the ultimate

old codgers’ luxury club for MPs on the way out. They all have a vested interest, not only in keeping the Lords but expanding it, as we pay the bills. Ironical, isn’t it, that in the bad old days when the undemocratic House of Lords was full of hereditary, unelected peers, it commanded far more respect than it does today?

IN some academic circles, the use of terms such as “man up” and “forefathers” is seen as sexist and threatening, and students can be penalised for using them in essays which count toward their degrees. A document from Hull University revealed at the weekend warns students: “Failure to use gender-sensitive language will impact your mark.” You know, the more I look at “penalised,” the more I worry.

MY recent item on Gibraltar takes me back to a strange assignment, videoing the lads of the Fusiliers as we all abseiled down the Rock. In those days video cameras were enormous and heavy, and filming required both hands. This meant I had to step backwards off the Rock with no rope to hold on to, and trust in the blokes above. They let me down without letting me down. I bet that doesn’t easily translate into Spanish.

THE voters of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, must be wondering whether their Popeye-look-alike MP Douglas Carswell will ever make up his mind. Carswell defected from the Tories to UKIP, resigned from Parliament and successfully fought a by-election under his new banner. Now, he has quit UKIP to become an Independent. The serial defector claims that because he has not joined another political party it’s not necessary for him to fight a by-election. Well, he is wrong. Clacton voted for a UKIP MP not an Independent, and the voters there should be given the opportunity to say if they want to retain this flibbertigibbet MP or dump him.

TALKING POINT



Rubbish dumpers should be binned off

“If you have been affected by any of the issues in this programme . . .” said the ITV continuity announcer at the end of a particular soap.

I have, I thought, so I wrote to the makers of Emmerdale. Sorry, the National Television Award-winning Emmerdale, as the announcer likes to make clear.

But it wasn’t to congratulate them on said award. Nor was it regarding one of their so-called hard-hitting storylines.

My letter was about a much bigger problem sweeping the country. Litter.

You see, one of the characters, a young girl, was sitting at a bench outside the Woolpack. She got up to go school and left an empty crisp packet behind her.

Surely, the young actress was not brought up to just leave her litter behind, I questioned. Impressionable young children could be watching the show and think it’s okay to not take rubbish with them, I protested.

But my correspondence was, appropriately, just swept under the carpet. “Thank you for your interest” and “your comments have been noted” were all they could muster up.

But for me this is a serious issue. I am forever seeing drink cans, food waste and wrappers, empty crisp packets, you name it, strewn into a hedge or just left by the roadside, and, often within sight of a bin. Whatever the reason, there is no excuse, just laziness, disrespect and disregard for this green and pleasant land in which we live.

And, while you may think teenagers are the biggest culprits, a Keep Britain Tidy campaign revealed the worst litter louts were 35-to-54-year-old men, exactly the age group I fall into. So, I can only apologise for my fellow brethren.

Thankfully, there are people who care as much as I do. Keep Britain Tidy’s Big Spring Clean campaign has seen volunteers take to the streets and in my hometown of Cannock alone more than 20 bags of rubbish were collected within a short area.

Even those bastions of quality journalism, Good Morning Britain carried out their own survey, purposely dropping litter to gauge public reaction, with many being horrified by the brazenness of such an act.

But what can be the long-term solution? Spending taxpayers’ money on more bins that probably won’t get used? On-the-spot fines? There has even been talk of bringing back a scheme that was around when I was a child, to get money back on bottles.

Admirable. But pointless when most law-abiding, reasonable people correctly use their recycle bins.

One thing is for sure, there are enough people that care about the environment to make a difference, though it shouldn’t be left to others to clean up after people. Now, don’t get me started on flytipping . . .

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Brexit bus message was a disgraceful stunt

WHAT an astonishing letter from B Williams claiming that no pro-Brexit politician had ever said that the money saved by withdrawing from the EU would go to the NHS.

If my memory serves me correctly, there was a large red bus touring the country carrying four pro-Brexit MPs – Boris Johnson, Liam Fox, Michael Gove and David Davies – and on the side of that bus, in very big letters, was the following slogan: ‘We send £350m every week to the EU. Let it be spent on the NHS instead’.

I remember Boris Johnson giving an

interview standing in front of the bus and pointing at the words.

This was one of the most disgraceful political stunts of all time because it did not take in account the money we receive back from the EU in the form of farm subsidies, or the building and infrastructure grants. The real figure is approximately £160m and we have since been told that it would not be spent on the NHS anyway.

I strongly suspect that many people were influenced by this clever trick and, had the truth been told, the vote would have ended with a majority

in the other direction. Theresa May now has the nightmare task of trying to keep us in the single market (something she has been told to do by big businesses) whilst at the same time attempting to take back our own law-making procedures.

The EU will not give us an easy Brexit. If it did, it would be the green light for other countries to do the same. Mrs May needs to get a firm grip. If she does not, the whole thing could degenerate into an absolute shambles.

PETER SIMPSON
Dudley

Independent Scotland - let us vote

ONE wonders if there is any chance that the English will get a vote on home rule for Scotland.

I think if we did many would vote in favour of an independent Scotland, just to get rid of Mrs Sturgeon, like we voted to get rid of the EU’s Mr Juncker.

It would be interesting to sit back and watch Mrs Sturgeon explain to the Scottish people how she is going to fill the employment gaps that develop round Faslane and Lossiemouth when British forces are pulled south of the border, causing many job losses.

Also when the British Open no longer is played on Scottish golf courses, how will Mrs Sturgeon explain that loss of income to the Scottish people around Glenneagles and St Andrews?

Yes Nicola, perhaps you should test the little grey cells before opening your mouth?

EWART J JOHNSON
Warley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors’ Code of Practice, which can be seen at

EMAIL

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Listing is no building safeguard

THE Fiddlers Arms in Lower Gornal is yet another example of a building with a ‘local listing’, a category that turns out to mean nothing whatsoever.

Developers laugh at this impotent classification and planners choose to turn a blind eye.

Dudley’s historic environment department, supposedly there to safeguard such buildings, has been reduced to one person with merely an advisory role.

You need only go back a couple of months to see how this played out in nearby Upper Gornal. The Leopard pub had local listed status, the next moment retention and restoration were deemed ‘unviable’.

Result: The Leopard (where the great Eliza Tinsley success story began) was a pile of rubble and a block of ugly maisonettes went up in its place.

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Taxi drivers in cameras plea after robberies

TAXIS in Dudley borough must be fitted with CCTV to help protect drivers after a spate of attacks, taxi bosses insist.

Cab drivers in Dudley are expected to find out next month if they will be allowed to put cameras in Hackney Carriage and private hire vehicles.

The head of Dudley's taxi association said the move is

necessary if drivers are to feel safe doing their jobs and has pleaded with councillors to give the move the green light.

Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association has been calling for CCTV for more than a year. Having cameras would be optional for drivers, who would have to pay for them out of their own pocket.

But after several attacks on drivers in recent months, many believe the cameras are necessary.

Targets

Association chairman Shaz Saleem said: "This is to protect drivers. At the moment, with these attacks, it would make drivers feel a lot more secure. Taxi drivers are easy targets. They are like banks on wheels and need a lot more protection."

Mr Saleem declared 'enough was enough' after two attacks on taxi drivers earlier this year.

By Richard Guttridge

A taxi driver was knifed by a passenger at the BP Petrol Station in Pedmore Road, Lye, in March.

That came just weeks after driver Sheakh Arbaz suffered a horrific assault in Dudley. His two passengers punched him repeatedly as he sat waiting to be paid his fare, taking his earnings and car keys.

Last year two drivers were the victim of terrifying incidents in Halesowen when a passenger held a syringe to their necks that he claimed was 'infected with Aids'.

Taxi drivers have been victims of various attacks more than 3,000 times in the West Midlands over the last decade.

The issue is due to be discussed by Dudley Council's taxis committee in May.

Eggs-ellent home visit by children



Chocolate treats from Jake Pearson with home residents Lily Cox, left, and Doris Hobday

EASTER arrived early for residents at an assisted-living day centre when they were given chocolate eggs by school children.

Pupils from Summerhill Primary School in Tipton travelled with staff to Walker Grange, also in Tipton, to hand out the treats. The initiative formed part of a project between the school and day centre where children have been learning about the impact of dementia.

The project has been set up by Home Instead Senior Care, a domiciliary care company, in partnership with the school and day centre.

Business development manager Susan Love, said the visit was a follow-up to a previous event when she visited the school and spoke to pupils about living with dementia.

She said: "The project has been absolutely great, it helps children to understand how people living with dementia can be helped."

A total of 42 Easter eggs were handed out, along with an Easter card, which was signed by members of the school's council, which is made up of 24 pupils.

Pupil Jake Pearson, nine, helped hand out eggs to residents, including twins Lily Cox and Doris Hobday, 92.

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Musicians have already expressed their interest in the new academy as they offer a wide range of musical services, from 1-1 tuition to Professional studio recording and Rehearsal rooms. The staff at ROX Music Academy are all experienced, working musicians with degrees. Rachel our Vocal Coach has worked with children with special requirements and younger children. She is looking forward to getting her after school club ROXJAM, up and running. "Children love music and maybe we can find the next Beyonce or Ed Sheeran. Our Singer Song writer course and Performance courses help with creative writing and confidence skills"

Some of the team are in touring bands, others have been teaching music and professionally performing music up and down the country in function bands and other musical projects. The entire team has higher qualifications in music and specializes in all popular and



Andy and Will Douglas both studied at Earls High School, Halesowen College and Universities in Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

The musicians decided to create a great opportunity for local musicians and performers of all ages and abilities to study, practice and record new music.

"We have a Sister on the Autistic Spectrum with an amazing singing voice, but found very few places where she would feel comfortable. We wanted her to be able to make friends and help improve her social skills, giving her freedom to sign her heart out to any song she wanted to, as loud as she wanted to. The building used to house Oakley Music so fitted us perfectly"



contemporary music styles ranging from Jazz and Pop, to Metal.

Andy and Will have stated, "Our academy doesn't just specialize in one area of the music market, we provide as many musical services as we can manage, so we can give musicians a versatile environment to come along to. The idea came to us when we found out the schools across the UK were decreasing funds to creative subjects. Gradually increasing cuts have been made to music services in schools over the last few years, so we decide to take matters into our own hands."

Andy and Will are hoping to assist artist, bands and music students in their musical endeavors and to help improve their ability and potentially boot music careers. If you are yet to embark on your musical adventure, it seems that this is certainly the place to start. ROX Music Academy, offering free half an hour taster lessons, book yours today

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Jewel raiders' decoy is jailed for 10 years

A MEMBER of a gang that carried out a £240,000 robbery on a jewellers has been jailed for 10 years.

Steven Griffiths, aged 36, of Tipton, Green, Rowley Regis, acted as a decoy for three armed robbers who raided SK Jewellers, on High Street, on December 31, 2016.

They then targeted Jai Jewellers in Cape Hill, Smethwick, on February 10 this year.

Griffiths pleaded guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court to robbery in relation to the SK Jewellers raid. He also admitted a charge of attempted robbery regarding Jai Jewellers.



Steven Griffiths

On each occasion, Griffiths gained access to the shops by dressing smartly and requesting access via a buzzer.

At SK Jewellers, he held the security door open while three men armed with hammers and axes went in, smashing glass cabinets and taking £240,000 worth of jewellery before the panic alarm was triggered. That filled the room with smoke as the gang escaped. They tried to do the same at Jai Jewellers, however, the plan was scuppered due to the shop having two security doors.

While Griffiths held the second open, the first closed, meaning the armed robbers had to break through the door.

None of the armed robbery gang has



Jai Jewellers after the failed robbery during which Griffiths was trapped

been caught, except for Griffiths, who had 84 previous offences to his name. Griffiths was pushed by the shop's quick-thinking owner into the gap between the two doors, before being locked into that space while the others escaped in a get-away car.

Trapped

He remained trapped until police arrived at the shop.

Mr David Bennett, prosecuting, said: "Both the robbery at SK Jewellers and the attempted robbery at Jai Jewellers were co-ordinated, professional efforts

that caused serious damage both financially and psychologically to the owners of the shops. The defendant was not armed in either instance but he clearly had a part to play.

"Both shops are small, family-run businesses and there were children present on each occasion."

Mr Lewis Perry, defending, said that Griffiths had a long-standing problem with heroin and the robbers had taken advantage of this.

Judge John Wait sentenced Griffiths to 10 years for each offence, to run concurrently.

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New music school has won funds and support

A MULTI-MILLION pound music performance school with 600 places will be created in Brierley Hill, after the ambitious proposals were backed by planners.

The school for musicians will be opened at The Waterfront, creating some 50 jobs.

The three-storey office building known as Cable Plaza will house the academic facilities to teach higher education and post graduate music courses.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for economic development, said the plans 'ticked all the right boxes' for redevelopment of the area.

Partnership

Dudley Council is contributing £25,000 towards the build with further funding coming from the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and private partners.

Councillor Ahmed said: "This is really exciting and we are now doing what we can to make sure that they get the right funding and that this goes to plan. It ticks all the right boxes. It will help redevelop the Brierley Hill area, which is

By Clare Butler

something we are desperate for. It is brilliant that the school will specialise in a certain subject and give students the best possible route for education status.

"Dudley Council is putting funding forward and the rest will be contributed by the institute itself.

"More jobs will be created for the area too, which is always a positive. We are keeping the pressure on the Black Country LEP to ensure this growth."

The campus will include a lecture theatre, classrooms, practice rooms, a library, recording studios, an independent radio station, a sound and light control room, a live music venue, a retail outlet, licensed bar and student accommodation.

£5m care home is officially opened



BCHG chairman Peter Bilson and chief executive Amanda Tomlinson with, right, Lord Lieutenant John Crabtree OBE

A NEW three-storey 66-bedroom care complex in Halesowen that has a cafe, hair salon – and even a cinema – has been officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands.

Gower Gardens in Kent Road, which cost £5 million to build, welcomed Lord Lieutenant John Crabtree OBE as he unveiled a plaque and declared the home open.

The opening of Gower Gardens is a significant landmark for Black Country Housing Group (BCHG) as it is the first time that the organisation has developed a purpose-built care facility, which it has done in partnership with developer LNT Care Developments. The 'dementia friendly' home has been designed to meet the needs of older people.

Chief executive of BCHG, Amanda Tomlinson, said: "It's been an honour to welcome the Lord Lieutenant to Gower Gardens and on behalf of the organisation I would like to thank him for taking the time to formally open our new facility. This modern and innovative new residential home, along with our experienced, qualified staff will offer the very best standards of care."

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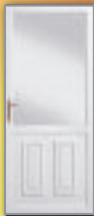
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Rogue builders who preyed on the elderly are jailed over £100,000 con

ROGUE builders have been jailed for targeting elderly people in Dudley and Sandwell, cheating them out of more than £100,000 with unnecessary, over-priced and shoddy work.

Three men were sentenced to jail terms for running a fraudulent property repair business that targeted vulnerable people, following a three-week trial at Birmingham Crown Court.

The sentences came after a fourth man was sentenced on March 17 for his part in the scheme.

Lee Evans, of Solihull, Andrew Blythe, of Coleshill, Mark Hunt, of Birmingham, and John Brookes, of Erdington, were brought to trial following a lengthy investigation carried out by the National Trading

Standards Central England Regional Investigations Team.

The court heard that the offences took place between 2007 and 2012 and that some victims – many retired and some in their 80s – were the subject of repeat offending.

Chimney

One paid nearly £130,000 over several years for work which experts estimated at costing around £14,000. Another victim in Dudley told the court how Evans and Blythe escalated a job from re-pointing to complete rebuilding of a chimney stack, the price soaring to £7,200. When the home owner refused to pay, Evans took his men off site, leaving her with a hole in her roof when it was snowing.

Evans, who ran LJ Evans & Son and LJ Evans Ltd

with Blythe, was found guilty of four offences of fraud and was sentenced to five years in jail.

Blythe changed his plea to guilty to four offences of fraud on day six of the trial and was sentenced to four years and nine months.

The court was also told how Evans and Blythe often arranged for their victims to make cheque payments out to third parties. Of three men to whom cheques were made out, two were co-defendants, Mark Hunt and John Brookes, who had earlier both pleaded guilty to money laundering.

Hunt was sentenced to eight months, suspended for 18 months. Brookes received a sentence of 16 months in jail. The third individual has not yet been found.

Judge Roderick Henderson told Evans that he had been involved in 'the grossest cheating of vulnerable people'.



Builder Lee Evans – jailed

Widow in 80s among victims

THE daughter of an elderly widow who was repeatedly preyed on by rogue builders has spoken out after they were jailed (see story left).

The Dudley homeowner who fell victim while in her late 80s, was one of several consumers across the Black Country tricked out of large sums of money by a group carrying out unnecessary and grossly overpriced building work.

Speaking anonymously, her daughter said: "They are preying on vulnerable people. The first I knew about it was when I arrived one day to find scaffolding up and building materials, but no sign of any workmen. Then I noticed three invoices on the side in the kitchen, which totalled around £10,000."

Trading Standards told her that they were investigating the group, who it total conned around £16,000 out of her mother.

New home new baby for zoo's capuchins



The new arrival clings onto mom at Dudley Zoo

A BABY monkey has been born at Dudley Zoo, just days after the family moved into a new enclosure.

The tiny yellow-breasted capuchin was born to 13 year-old Dinya and nine-year-old dad, Willow, at the Castle Hill attraction.

The baby, yet to be named, arrived just days after the capuchins moved into their new home, the first part of the zoo's restoration programme as it prepares to celebrate its 80th anniversary.

Upper primates section leader, Pat Stevens, said: "This is Dinya's seventh baby and fourth here at DZG, so she's very experienced and even Willow is being an attentive dad and is looking out for them both."

"On the day of the birth we let the capuchins out just after 7am and two hours later we discovered the baby, so she must definitely be comfortable in the new enclosure to give birth outside."

The enclosure, which has cost £25,000, includes a climbing frame, ropes, foliage and high platforms. The capuchins' indoor quarters have also doubled in size.

£100m investment in leisure at Merry Hill

A NEW restaurant quarter and fresh leisure attractions are set to open at the Merry Hill shopping centre as part of a £100 million expansion, owners Intu have revealed.

Intu wants to modernise the shopping centre and has revealed more details about its major plans for a new 100,000sq ft extension.

The company is planning to invest in the expansion and modernisation of the centre over the next seven years.

And it has now been revealed that a new restaurant quarter is likely to be a big part of that, in addition to the centre's existing fast food eating area.

Bosses are also to prioritise adding leisure facilities as part of the revamp at the Brierley Hill shopping destination.

Details have not yet been announced but it has been suggested that a bowling alley could be one of the leisure options being explored.

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there's a
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there's a wayFire crews
attacked in
travellers'
site incident**FIREFIGHTERS** were attacked by yobs as they attended reports of bonfires being lit at a travellers' site in the Black Country

Thugs in Rowley Regis hurled objects at a fire engine, damaging the windscreen and a back window, and surrounded a police car with officers forced to retreat.

From now on, firefighters will not attend the site in Cakemore Road unless they have a police escort.

Crews from Oldbury Fire Station were targeted by the yobs after being called out to tackle a number of bonfires.

A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said the incident had happened at a traveller community site at around 10pm on Wednesday, April 5.

Hooligans smashed the rear side window of a fire engine with a stone and drove at the vehicle head-on before throwing a metal scaffolding pole, cracking the front window.

Oldbury crew commander Ian Nash said: "There were a few bonfires on the site. Our fire crew went in to put it out and were attacked. They were driven at head-on by another vehicle and had something like a scaffolding pole thrown, which cracked

By Tom Oakley

the front window. Police came and their car was surrounded, so they retreated, basically. Another two pumps arrived and we were instructed not to go as it was too dangerous.

"No-one was injured. A bit of glass went over the crew but that's it."

Crews from Haden Cross and Oldbury Fire Station were in attendance.

A fire service spokesperson said: "The incident involved a number of small fires in a traveller community site. The firefighters have come under attack from stones and withdrawn from the incident. Any future incidents to this site will require two trucks and an escort from police."

Police said officers attended and spoke to members of the group. No arrests were made at the time.

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Hugh's charity rides**Cycling ace Hugh Porter, Lisa Bockhoefer of Compton Hospice and Marston's MD Richard Westwood**

CYCLING legend Hugh Porter has urged riders to sign up for a second epic charity challenge.

The four-times world pursuit winner is confident this year's Round the Wrekin sportive will be bigger and better than the successful inaugural event in 2016.

By the time of the event on May 21, Mr Porter said he was hopeful the sportive could attract 1,000 participants.

Money raised from the event will go to Compton Hospice in Wolverhampton. Banks's will be paying an upfront sponsorship fee plus £5 for each rider who signs up for the event after the 500th entry.

Richard Westwood, Marston's managing director, said: "We are really excited to be sponsoring the Banks's Round The Wrekin Cycling Sportive in aid of Compton Hospice. Last year's sportive was a huge success with 600 cyclists taking part and it raised more than £21,000. We are hoping even more people will join us on one of the three routes this year to raise even more money for this worthy cause."

Cyclists can complete one of three routes from Kingswinford Rugby Club – the Hugh Porter 38km, standard 102km and epic 160km – with a route into Shropshire. To register visit www.roundthewrekin.co.uk website.StarReaderTravel
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Grange(E) Guild

CHRIS Holton presided over the monthly meeting at Grange Court, Stourbridge, and gave a warm welcome to 33 members.

She read out the minutes from the previous meeting which were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

An outing has been arranged to Stratford-upon-Avon on April 28, to include a river cruise with afternoon tea.

Treasurer Jill Attwood gave a breakdown of all income and expenditure for the previous month and informed members that a donation will be sent to the Stroke Association which was chosen by members as the charity for this year.

The AGM followed when all the present committee members agreed to carry on for a further year. Chris gave a full report on the previous year's events since the last AGM.

Members enjoyed hot cross buns at Easter, a summer tea party, a theatre outing, a harvest supper and a Christmas party. These events were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Margaret Tew gave a talk on the history of the Townswomen's Guild and how it all began and continued to grow into what it is today.

She held everyone's attention and was thanked on behalf of the members.

Fish and chips were followed by tea and coffee and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Four lucky ladies won raffle prizes.

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month. For details call 01384 832439.

Ann bowls them over to win shield

Debate over rules of beetle drive

Kingswinford TG

THE Annual General Meeting was held at the Community Centre in High Street. The event was well attended although there were a few apologies for absence.

Business proceeded smoothly as there was no election necessary. Pauline Bird had offered to fill the gap on the committee, created as Margaret Whitfield is unable to continue at present. She was presented with a beautiful planter of growing spring flowers for her efforts as a committee member.

The secretary, treasurer and chairman gave their annual reviews. The section leaders reported on the last year and gave hints of things yet to come, but no final details.

Events being organised by the Federation include a card making day, an inter-guild arts and crafts competition, the annual lunch at The Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill and an inter-guild quiz. Members were reminded that every member is entitled to attend the Federation AGM on April 19 at 2pm in the Wollaston Room in Stourbridge Town Hall.

There are also a few seats available on the trip to the National Arboretum at Alrewas in May.

Raffle prizes were won by visitor June Bradley, Josie Smith, Sue Wilson and Marion Allman. There then followed a short beetle drive after a short but heated debate on the rules. Joyce Major won the prize and everyone was rewarded with a chocolate for participating.

Wollaston E TWG

THE March meeting, which incorporated the AGM, was attended by 42 members with Julie Willets in the chair.

The nominations for officers and committee were read, with the inclusion of two new committee members, namely Ann Turner and Gill McKenzie.

The guild's local rules were read out by Hazel Needham and their adoption was proposed and seconded.

The chairman said she was enthusiastically looking forward to an interesting coming year. The bowls competition shield was handed to Ann Turner and the competition cup to Elizabeth Grove.

Jean Dunne and Ann McKenzie were presented with long service certificates and badges and retiring committee members, Sue Llewellyn and Pat Steele received gifts in appreciation of their service.

Dr Julian Sonksen from the organ donation team at Russells Hall Hospital gave a most interesting presentation on organ donation.

Raffle prizes went to Hazel Needham, Jean Lloyd Jones and Elizabeth Grove.

Strummer time is here again

Dudley South Ladies Luncheon Club

AT the March meeting chairman Pauline Handley welcomed 30 members and visitor Pat Wood for a three-course lunch and entertainment by the Sedgley Strummers, a 15-strong ukulele band.

Yet again the meal had been excellent and served most efficiently by the friendly staff at The Lodge, Wellington Road, Dudley.

The Sedgley Strummers had everyone singing and tapping along to well-known songs old and new. There were songs from the roaring 20s, 1960s and 70s and of course the old favourite made famous by George Formby, Leaning on a Lamppost.

Meetings are on the second Friday each month, noon for 12.30pm. April's speaker will be David Berry on Humour in Retirement and there will be a bring & buy stall with an Easter theme of yellow/white.

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Dancer Sophie is set to shine



Dancer Sophie Tierney from Halesowen will perform in Edgbaston as part of a performing arts school tour

A DANCER'S fancy footwork has secured her a place on a 10-date tour representing one of Britain's most prestigious performing arts schools.

Sophie Tierney, from Halesowen, is a dance student at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts and is a member of the school's Encore Dance Company.

The 19-year-old will perform as part of a programme of dance when the tour visits close to home with a performance at MAC in Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, April 28.

Dangerous driver jailed after police car chase

AN uninsured and unlicensed driver lost control of a car while attempting to escape pursuing police at more than twice the speed limit, a judge heard.

The silver Vauxhall Vectra with Stephen Emanuel behind the wheel clipped a kerb, spun across the road and careered into two parked cars, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Police had been alerted by a passer-by who saw the registration number being stolen from the same model of car in Netherton. Officers spotted the 25-year-old's Vectra bearing the stolen plates in Halesowen Road, Netherton, shortly afterwards.

The vehicle ignored a request to stop, performed a U-turn and accelerated away, forcing other drivers to brake and swerve out of the way as he raced through a red light at the junction with Saltwells Road.

Bend

Mr David Bennett, prosecuting, said the Vectra reached 80mph in a 30mph zone while speeding towards Cradley Heath along Halesowen Road before Emanuel lost control on a bend.

The prosecutor continued: "The nearside wheel hit the kerb, the car spun and crashed into two parked cars, causing considerable damage."

A pair of pliers and makeshift mask were found in the defendant's car, which was impounded by police following his arrest on March 7.

Mr Colin McCarragher, de-

By John Scott

fending, said Emanuel, who had previous convictions involving 66 separate offences, had been turning over a new leaf after finding work and meeting a new partner, who was now pregnant.

"He has now lost their home and feels deeply ashamed after falling in with bad company. It was the worst possible decision to get involved in this incident," added the lawyer.

Emanuel, previously of Seamore Road in Lye, pleaded guilty to dangerous driving and was jailed for eight months with a 16-month driving ban.

Judge John Wait told him: "I do not know what you were doing that night but you were driving on false plates and had every reason not to want to encounter the police."

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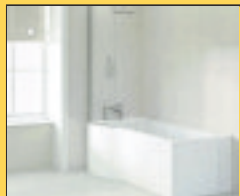


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Mouth of the South has lots to chew over

Rob Beckett
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London comic has a knack
for spotting the absurdities
lurking in modern life.

He even offers advice on
fighting back against the
nuisance 'have you had an
accident at work' phone
calls by wasting their time
- 'yeah, I have, my 'ed fell
off' - or how to ensure you
never ever forget your pass-
word: It's idontknowmate,
feel free to add 123, capi-
talise the I and underscore
wherever you please.

On Saturday he shared
with a full Town Hall his
take on marriage, father-
hood, technology and, to the
biggest laughs, Kit Kats,
tumbledriers and the worst
place in England. It's Corby.

He gets the teeth gags
out of the way early on - if
he lived in Africa he would
have been poached by now -
and refreshingly uses fewer
expletives than most com-
ics. I am not saying that you
could take you grandmother
in total comfort, but I am
sure she would have a good
time.

Beckett has an easy
charm and is quick-witted,
as shown in his banter with
the front row. This included
the schools pals Sophie and
Fiona, who go together
under the blended nickname
Sofiona - "Fiona got her
whole name in, she mugged
you off Sophie".

The motormouth from
the South may not be able
to pronounce Birmingham
properly, but he's welcome
back anytime.



Caroline Quentin and Mark Addy as Lady Sarah and Sir John Hotham Pic: Pete Le May/RSC

Cavalier comedy capers

The Hypocrite

Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
HORRIBLE Histories meets Blackadder
in Richard Bean's riotous farce, The Hyp-
ocrite, which is bringing belly laughs to a
venue more accustomed to high drama.

If all history was as entertaining (and
as saucy) as this play, set in 17th century
Yorkshire at the start of the English Civil
War, we would be a nation of expert histori-
ans. This co-production by the Royal Shake-
speare Company and Hull Truck Theatre is
to mark the Humberside city (don't dare
call it a town) being UK City of Culture
2017, and has already been staged at the
East Riding port.

Hence lots of local references to Yorkshire
locations, rugby, etc, that may be lost on a
Midlands audience. It doesn't matter be-
cause the gags come thick and fast from the
pen of Hull-born Bean, the writer of West
End hit comedy One Man Two Guvnors.

He brings to life the true story of York-
shire MP Sir John Hotham, who tried to
please both sides - King and Parliament - in
the war and make himself a fortune at the
same time. It was, as Bean saw from the re-
search, a farce. Hotham's plan did not suc-
ceed and he ended up losing his head.

That is the starting point for the play as
the disembodied cranium of Hotham ex-

REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

plains how a combination of greed, coward-
ice and stupidity led to his demise.

The increasingly perplexed and desperate
Hotham is portrayed with great comic en-
ergy by Mark Addy, constantly at odds with
his haughty wife, played with droll wit by
Caroline Quentin, who knows a thing or two
about men behaving badly. The insults they
hurl at each other are highly inventive and
not repeatable here.

Slapstick

Into the mix throw a lovesick daughter, a
camp pair of royal spies, grumpy Puritans
- and Drudge, an ancient family retainer
dealt a series of slapstick indignities (acro-
batic Danielle Bird, in old man disguise).

The real injustices that fuelled the bloody
civil war are raised by the strident folk song
interludes from the impressive 'Ranter',
played by Josh Sneesby, and Laura Elswor-
thy as level-headed Yorkshire lass, Connie
the servant.

The Hypocrite is a treat, try to catch it
before it ends its RSC run on April 29.

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Binman gets sack after swapping rubbish over

A BINMAN has been sacked after he was filmed switching rubbish between two bins in a Sandwell street to avoid having to collect it.

The worker lost his job after being caught in the act moving the rubbish outside a house in West Bromwich.

CCTV footage from the house showed him brazenly lifting the lids of the wheelie bins after checking the coast was clear before moving bags of rubbish from one to the other.

Homeowner Brij Dhande was left stunned when he checked the footage and saw what the sneaky binman had done. After being told on several occasions his rubbish was in the wrong bin, the 55-year-old installed CCTV to see what was going on – catching out the unsuspecting binman.

Serco, which manages waste collection services on behalf of Sandwell Council, said the man's actions were unacceptable and apologised.

Binmen can refuse to collect rubbish if it is not sorted into the correct bins and it is believed the worker was mixing the rubbish to try and take a short-cut on his rounds.

In the footage, the man, wearing a woolly hat and high-vis trousers, can be clearly seen moving the rubbish outside the house on All Saints Way before walking off.

IT worker Mr Dhande said: "I was shocked. All along I was under the impression it was children messing about but it is a grown man, who looks like an employee. This is what people pay their taxes for – for them to do their job."

The footage was captured shortly before 5.30am last Tuesday. Mr Dhande said the problems with his bins had partly prompted his decision to install CCTV.



The CCTV image of the binman caught on camera with the bins

Paedophile, 101, loses appeal

A 101-YEAR-OLD paedophile, thought to be the oldest person ever to be convicted in British legal history, has lost an appeal against his prison sentence.

Ralph Clarke, of Holly Lane, Erdington, was jailed for 13 years for child abuse at the city's crown court in December. The former RAF man and HGV driver had been found guilty of 21 sex offences and admitted nine others.

But he appealed to top judges, claiming his 'extreme old age' should have

resulted in a considerably shorter sentence. But senior judges at the Court of Appeal in London upheld the 13-year stretch.

Lady Justice Hallett said there are facilities in jails for old inmates. Although Clarke has health difficulties, he was living independently prior to his sentencing and travelled to court on public transport each day unaided. "We are not persuaded that the sentence passed was manifestly excessive," she concluded.

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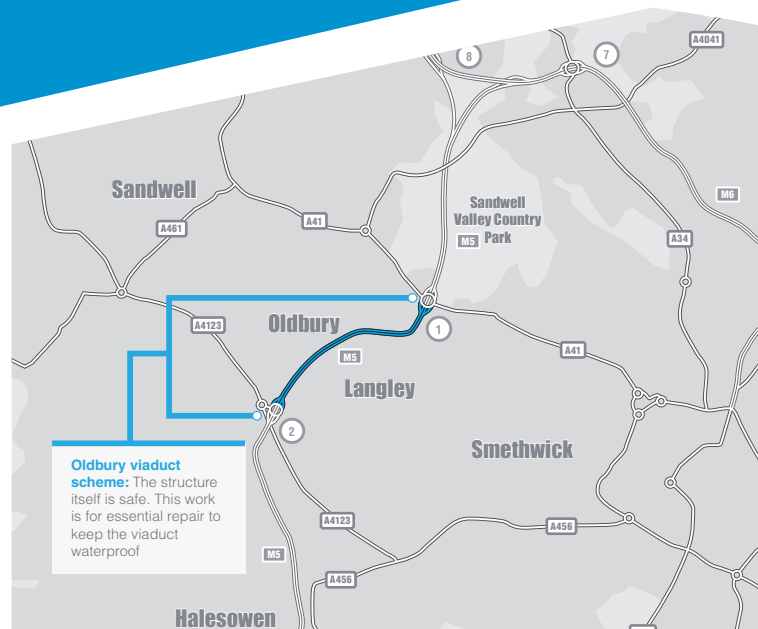
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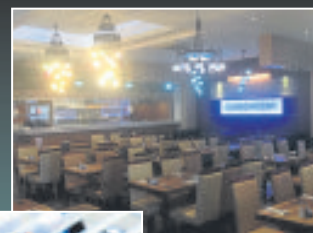
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We'll put the 'pop' back in pop music

Want to feel old? It's been 20 years since Steps released their disco-tastic debut – and now they're back to celebrate. And despite the two decades in between, The Ticket discovers not much has really changed.

Hit 90s pop group Steps are playing a game. Lisa Scott-Lee and Claire Richards are trying to work out who the Chancellor of the Exchequer was when they formed, almost 20 years ago, in May 1997.

As they confer, a giggling Ian 'H' Watkins, sat behind the pair, slyly tickles their backs. Swatting him away, Claire correctly answers 'Gordon Brown' to the delight of her bandmates, who fall about laughing after H's antics are revealed.

It's just one sign of the affinity and energy retained by the group, who split so acrimoniously at the turn of the millennium, when Claire and H decided they wanted to form a duo.

Since then, of course, things have been patched up, and the band reformed in 2011 for a Sky Living series and a string of concerts. Now, more than five years on, with the exception of 39-year-old Claire, they have all celebrated their 40th birthdays, but that does little to deter their energy and positive affront.

Hauling suitcases and carrying Pret takeaway bags, they bundle into the studio where they're set to have a photo shoot. The five, completed by Lee Latchford-Evans and Faye Tozer, start swapping make-up and hairbrushes and finding plug sockets to charge their phones, giggling and breaking into song before finally taking their seats.

The Ticket catches up with them 24 hours later, after the release of Scared Of The Dark, the lead track from their first album proper in 17 years (they released a Christmas record of largely covers in 2012), and the five have somehow grown even more excitable.

Taking over the corner of a restaurant in a London hotel, their manager, Adam, looking at his laptop, says, "We're on Vice". The comment is greeted with startled yelps – along with an inquisitive query: "Is that good?"

BOMBASTIC

The Vice article declares Scared Of The Dark a 'bombastic, ABBA-referencing pop beast that will most certainly soundtrack someone's post-divorce drinking this year', declaring it 'banger of the month'.

This reaction has come as a complete surprise, says Lee, flanked by mum-of-two Claire, who arrives a little later than her band mates after completing the school run.

"We didn't know how people were going to take it," confesses Lee. "We know fans love the old stuff, it's been proven. But the new material, we thought, 'Oh God, we're from 20 years ago, the charts have changed, how they buy it has changed, how it charts...'"

But all that doesn't seem to have mattered. The group recall leaving the BBC in Salford after an interview a day or two before, when staff members lined the glass corridors to catch a glimpse of Steps passing through.

Claire recalls: "There were loads of people asking for photos and autographs, and security told us they had never seen anything like it. They've had Bradley Cooper, Will.i.am and all these really amazing famous people in there, and they said this never happens."

"I don't actually know what is going on!" she adds, laughing.

Although they still aren't quite sure how the charts work (they repeatedly ask about the difference between

Step this way – Lisa, H, Lee, Claire and Faye have reformed



streaming and buying), they take great delight in following Scared Of The Dark's climb on the iTunes Store, and admit they've been sharing positions and updates via their WhatsApp group.

They listened to the song's first play on the radio in the car together – almost 20 years to the day after they gathered to hear their debut release, the now iconic 5, 6, 7, 8.

"It felt like we had started all over again," reflects H. "There were tears, and shivers and camaraderie and love, and it was so amazing. We were together for 5, 6, 7, 8 listening in a van. It feels like déjà vu."

Their WhatsApp group is also what supported the band's relaunch. With all five scattered around the globe now, it meant they could all receive instructions to post the same updates from their social media accounts at the same time.

"I was in Dubai, Faye was in Mexico, H was in Wales, the other two were in London. We were all over the world waiting, pouncing with our phones pressing send," explains Lee.

"It was like, 'Thunderbirds are go!'" H chips in. "It was so exciting."

Probed on why now was right for the band's third coming, the five are adamant it isn't purely a gimmicky return to mark 20 years, but that they want to 'inject pop back into pop music'.

"New music the key for us to have a new energy with Steps," says Faye, "because we couldn't have asked the fans to come and see us again with just the old songs. We were so ready to give them something and I think it has breathed new life into us."

They promise the new record, Tears On The Dancefloor, despite its name, will add some colour and light relief to a 'grey world'.

"I think the world needs a bit of light-hearted fun," says Lee. "Steps always brought that. We've got upbeat music, we like having a great time, we just want the audience to join in with us, forget their worries for a while and just

There were tears, and shivers and camaraderie and love, it was amazing

have a bit fun, and that's what we want to bring back."

And the album wasn't thrown together, he insists, but was two years in the making, and the band listened to around 50 tracks before settling on the final tracklist.

"We are really protective of us," explains Claire.

"Protective of Steps."

"It is ours, it is our legacy and we're always very cautious about doing something that might damage that."

It's clear, behind all the jokes and buoyancy, this is a group who really want this comeback to succeed.

"Do you not think though that music, and fashion, have a 20-year cycle," Faye reasons.

After a pause, an unsure Watkins asks: "Does that mean we'll do this again when we're 60?"

"Oh God, that scares me!" Tozer replies – but perhaps don't bet against it.

● **Tears On The Dancefloor** is out on April 21 while tickets to the Steps UK tour, **Party On The Dancefloor**, are on sale now. Visit www.stepsofficial.co.uk. Steps play Barclaycard Arena on December 1.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The



The Stand Up And Rock crew



Jasper is ready to Stand Up and Rock again

After 25 years of stand-up, Jasper Carrott decided he was done with live comedy. Until the Stand Up and Rock Tour with former ELO drummer Bev Bevan came about.

During his career, spanning more than 40 years, proud Brummie Jasper has starred in numerous TV programmes, written books and even reached number five in the UK charts in 1975 with Funky Moped, produced by ELO's Jeff Lynne. It sold more than half a million copies.

Jasper, pictured with Bev and his other Stand Up and Rock co-stars, was granted the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2008 British Comedy Awards. He first began doing shows at folk clubs across the Midlands, with Brummie Jasper hailing the Black Country as a 'great place to work'. Well, he's back in the Black Country to perform at Dudley Town Hall on Friday and Saturday, April 20 and 21.

"The reason we're doing so many shows in the Black Country is because of the wonderful audiences," says Jasper, now aged 71.

"When I was starting out in my career, going through the folk clubs, I loved it in the Black Country.

"There were dozens of these folk clubs across the area back then, in Codsall, Tettenhall, Dudley, Kingswinford. I always had such a good time.

"Dudley Town Hall, for example. It's always somewhere I really look forward to performing."

Back in 2000 the star stopped doing stand-up, but it was the Stand Up And Rock tour back in 2014 which rekindled his love for live comedy.

"It started off a few years back with Bev, who I've been mates with for 60 years. We realised there was a whole audience not being catered for, those aged 50 and above.

"By the time I hit the road I'll be 72," he says. "Ken Dodd's 87 and he's still doing it. That gives me some hope."

The line-up includes drummer Bev Bevan (ELO, The Move) and singer Geoff Turton (The Rockin' Berries) plus Phil Tree, Tony Kelsey, Abby Brant and newcomer Suzi Woo. See www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment or call (01384) 812 812.

Kinks musical will really get you



SUNNY Afternoon the Olivier Award-winning West End hit featuring the music of Ray Davies and The Kinks, visits Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, April 18 to 22.

The tour stars Ryan O'Donnell as Ray Davies (pictured) with Mark Newnham as his battling brother Dave, Garmon Rhys as bassist Pete Quaife and Andrew Gallo as drummer Mick Avory.

The Kinks exploded onto the 60s music scene with a raw energetic new sound that rocked a nation. But one of the era's most iconic British bands experienced a

tumultuous time of euphoric highs and agonising lows, leaving a musical legacy that influenced later generations, from You Really Got Me, via Waterloo Sunset to Lola.

The acclaimed show won four accolades at the 2015 Olivier Awards including Best New Musical and Outstanding Achievement in Music for Ray Davies. Following a sell-out run at Hampstead Theatre, Sunny Afternoon opened to critical acclaim at the Harold Pinter Theatre in London's West End in October 2014 and had its final London performance two years later.

Sunny Afternoon has music and lyrics by Ray Davies with a book by Joe Penhall from an original

story by Ray Davies. Contact grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.

Meanwhile, On April 21, Ray Davies will release his first new album in more than nine years, Americana, via Legacy Recordings. The 15-track collection of originals serves as a master-crafted return for one of the most highly-rated songwriters of the past 50 years, and follows Davies' 2013 memoir of the same name.

Using the book as both source material and catalyst, Davies enlisted The Jayhawks as his backing band and recorded the album at Konk, the London studio founded by The Kinks in 1973.

A new Lord of the Dance

More than 40 of the finest young dancers will feature in Michael Flatley's spectacular Lord of the Dance: Dangerous Games at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, from Wednesday to Sunday, April 19 to 23.

Though he no longer appears, the production has been created, choreographed and directed by Irish dance superstar Flatley. This UK tour will star his protégés James Keegan, Morgan Comer and Mathew Smith as Lord of the Dance. See www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 3333.



Band ready to make another Splashh

Indie rock band Splashh release their second album, Waiting A Lifetime, tomorrow (Friday) and have a gig at Birmingham venue the Hare and Hounds on Thursday, April 20.

After a brief relocation to New York, the London-based Anglo-Aussie outfit recorded Waiting A Lifetime in Brooklyn with producer Nicolas Vernhes (War on Drugs, Deerhunter, Animal Collective). Featuring bassist Tom Beal, formerly of Wolverhampton band Ripchord, the new album is sometimes more raucous than their slacker-rock debut, Comfort, five years ago. Splashh was formed in 2012 by Sasha Carlson and Toto Vivian, friends from suburban Australia. The line-up is completed by Beal and Jaie Gonzales. They will be supported by The Americas and Phones at the Kings Heath venue. Tickets £8 in advance.

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CHOICE



Peter Capaldi & Pearl Mackie

Doctor Who (BBC1, 7.20pm)
New series. Peter Capaldi's eccentric, era-hopping Time Lord returns for his final series. However, before he hands over the key to the Tardis to his as-yet-undecided successor, there's the matter of the girl with a star in her eye to deal with. A chance encounter brings Bill Potts into contact with the Doctor, who is conducting a secret mission on Earth. What follows is a terrifying chase across time and space, one that opens Bill's mind to the prospect of a bigger and wider universe than she'd ever imagined. Pearl Mackie makes her debut Doctor Who appearance as new companion Bill, while Matt Lucas also stars as the Doctor's old ally Nardole.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites. (R) 12.00 Football Focus. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day one at the Crucible Theatre. 4.30 Final Score. 5.30 Who Dares Wins. 6.10 BBC News. 6.20 Regional Programme. 6.30 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present as famous faces take part in the general knowledge quiz in which they try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public.
7.20 Doctor Who. New series. Peter Capaldi returns, as a secret mission brings the Time Lord and his sardonic assistant Nardole into contact with a girl with a star in her eye. With Pearl Mackie.
8.10 Casualty. A man turns to arson to bring justice to a bullying boss, unaware that he has placed his own wife in mortal danger. Meanwhile, Jez finds himself in bed with Ellie's 17-year-old son.
9.00 All Round to Mrs Brown's. Agnes Brown and her brood are joined in their studio-home by another selection of famous faces, including comedian and presenter Sue Perkins and Diversity's Ashley Banjo, who brings his mum Danielle to meet the formidable Irish matriarch. Former Silent Witness star Emilia Fox, most recently seen trying to solve the mystery of The Missing Crown Jewels in Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, becomes the latest unsuspecting star to join Dermot and Buster on their Celebrity Tour venture, and Aston Merrygold – whose latest single Show Me was released last month – provides this week's music.
10.00 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update. 10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which include Southampton v Manchester City.
11.45 Film: Rescue Dawn. (2006) Werner Herzog's Vietnam War drama, starring Christian Bale and Steve Zahn.
1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.50 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Film: Up Periscope. (1959) **7.55 Film: The Heroes of Telemark.** (1965) **10.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. 12.00 Track Cycling World Championships.** Live coverage day four at Hong Kong Velodrome. **3.30 Gardeners' World. (R) 4.30 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** The afternoon session on day one at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **5.30 Nature's Weirdest Events. (R) 5.45 Easter from King's 2017. 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Coverage of the concluding session on the opening day of the ranking tournament at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first-round matches featuring Mark Selby and Anthony McGill reach a conclusion. Selby is given the honour of being involved in the first fixture of the tournament in his role as reigning champion, but will be well aware that several winners have fallen at the first hurdle the following year, as the unique pressure of defending the title in the intimate surroundings of the Crucible have their effect.
8.00 Grand Tours of Scotland. Paul Merton travels from Loch Tay in Perthshire to the spa town of Strathpeffer, via the Rannoch Moor wilderness and the mountain of Buachaille Etive Mor.
8.30 Dad's Army. Classic comedy, starring Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier. (R)
9.00 QI XL. 9.45 Film: War of the Worlds. (2005) A divorced father's rare weekend with his two estranged children descends into horror when alien war machines rise from beneath Earth and begin to systematically destroy every human being in their path – leaving the man with the dangerous task of getting his kids to safety. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller, based on HG Wells' novel, with Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning, Justin Chawlin, Miranda Otto and Tim Robbins.
11.35 Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the evening session on the opening day at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where two first-round matches were scheduled to conclude.
12.25 Snooker: World Championship Extra. 2.25 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Sooty. (R) 6.55 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.00 Oodibods. (R) 7.05 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 7.20 Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30 Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: NinjaGo: Masters of Spinjitzu. (R) 8.20 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) 8.45 Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Weekend. 10.25 James Martin's French Adventure. (R) 11.25 ITV News: Weather. 11.35 Film: The Flintstones. (1994) **1.20 Film: The Secret of My Success. (1987) Comedy, starring Michael J Fox. **3.30 Tipping Point. (R) 4.30 Fantastic Beasts and JK Rowling's Wizarding World. (R) 5.30 Regional Programme : Weather. 5.45 ITV News: Weather. 6.00 Operation Magic.** Illusionist and Britain's Got Talent 2016 winner Richard Jones performs a special magic show for his former comrades-in-arms in the Army.
7.00 Take Me Out. New series. A model, a circus performer, a football coach and a salesman try to get the female participants to keep their lights on.
8.00 Britain's Got Talent. New series. The nationwide talent search, which gives members of the public a chance to show off their remarkable signature skills, returns for an 11th series. As ever, Ant and Dec take on hosting duties, heading backstage to chat with the scores of auditionees queuing up for their chance at stardom, while Alesha Dixon and David Walliams come back for their sixth year on the judging panel alongside veterans Simon Cowell and Amanda Holden. Even at this early stage, reports from the audition recording stages indicate that some of the acts have made a strong impression on the judges – but whether that will work in their favour remains to be seen.
9.25 Film: The Expendables. (2010) Action thriller, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone. With Jason Statham.
10.25 ITV News: Weather. 10.40 Film: The Expendables. (2010) Continued.
11.40 The Chase. (R) 12.30 Jackpot247.****

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Triathlon: Super League Triathlon. 7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.55 The Simpsons. (R) 11.25 The Simpsons. (R) 11.50 The Simpsons. (R) 12.20 Extreme Food. 12.55 Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Practice 3 Live. Coverage from the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhr. **2.25 F1 Meets Murray Walker. 2.55 Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Qualifying Live. From the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhr (Start-time 4.00pm). **5.30 Travel Man: 48 Hours in Naples. (R) 6.00 Channel 4 News. 6.30 Film: The Book Thief.** (2013) Premiere. A girl separated from her family is raised by foster parents in Nazi Germany, who instill in her a love of reading. She is horrified by the book burnings and tries to save volumes from the flames, while she and her adoptive family provide a safe hiding place for a Jewish boy. Drama based on Markus Zusak's novel, starring Sophie Nelisse, Geoffrey Rush and Emily Watson.
9.00 Film: The Imitation Game. (2014) Biopic of mathematician Alan Turing, whose work during the Second World War translated seemingly unbreakable Nazi codes as well as pioneering the development of computer technology. In the years following the war, his life would be destroyed as his homosexuality was discovered, leaving him facing criminal charges. Starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley and Charles Dance.
11.15 Film: Solomon Kane. (2010) A 17th-century mercenary fights to redeem himself for his past sins by rescuing a kidnapped girl from an evil sorcerer. Fantasy thriller, with James Purefoy and Pete Postlethwaite.
1.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. Arizona bistro owners who have a contempt for customer feedback. (R) **1.55 Hollyoaks.** Omnibus. Liam's fury with a race grows and he has a plan for those closest to her. (R) **4.00 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent.** From Reigate in Surrey. (R) **4.50 Four in a Bed. (R) 5.15 Location, Location, Location.** House-hunting in west London. (R)**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.30 Football on 5: The Championship. (R) 11.15 Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) 11.40 Police Interceptors Unleashed. (R) 12.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.10 Bargain Bride on Benefits. (R) 2.10 On Benefits: Life on the Dole. (R) 3.15 On Benefits: Life on the Dole. (R) 4.15 Nightmarer Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) 5.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. The agents have an explosive run-in with a debtor as they try to retrieve £1,800 owed by a car dealership, and in Derbyshire, two officers try to collect more than £1,500 in unpaid parking fines. Elsewhere, Max and Paul are in London as they attempt to recover £2,000 owed by a property company, but an employee refuses to let them enter. (R)
7.10 NCIS: Los Angeles. Part two of two. Kensi goes in search of her father's killer, before bumping into her mother, who she has not seen for more than 15 years.
8.00 NCIS. The team looks into a raid on a naval base, and Dr Cyril Taft – the surgeon who saved Gibbs' life – experiences the thrill of assisting on an investigation. Assigned to treat Gibbs' suspect, Taft manages to uncover evidence that may prove crucial to solving the case. Meanwhile, DiNozzo pays his old flame Jeanne Benoit a visit as he chases a lead involving doctors in Sudan. Guest starring John C. Ryan.
8.55 5 News Weekend. 9.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments: The 00s. A look back at the noughties, which witnessed the birth of reality TV and some bizarre scenes caught on camera – from George Galloway's turn as a cat in Celebrity Big Brother, to Katie Price and Peter Andre's love affair and Gillian McKeith's fit of the vapours on I'm a Celebrity. It was also the decade that saw Susan Boyle shock the judges on Britain's Got Talent, Miley Cyrus cause a storm at the VMAs, Robbie Williams rejoin Take That, and Kate Moss dabble with cocaine. There are also reflections on incidents involving Tiger Woods, Lance Armstrong and Wayne Rooney. (R)
11.55 Access. 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 Film: Knock Off. (1998) **4.50 House Doctor. (R)****

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 The Silk Road 8.00 Tankies: Tank Heroes of WWII **9.00 Film: Department Q: The Absent One** (2014) **10.55 Top of the Pops: 1983 12.05 Chas & Dave: Last Orders 1.05 London Songs at the BBC 2.05 Squeeze: Take Me 3.05 Sounds of the Eighties 3.35 Close**
ITV2
11.05 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 12.35 Britain's Got Talent: Top 10 Daredevils 1.40 Grease: Live 4.40 Film: Happy Feet (2006) **5.40 FYI Daily 5.45 Film: Happy Feet** (2006) **6.45 Film: Bean** (1997) **7.45 FYI Daily 7.50 Film: Bean** (1997) **8.30 Scorpion 9.25 Britain's Got More Talent 10.30 Celebrity Juice 11.20 Family Guy 12.45 American Dad! 1.45 Through the Keyhole 2.35 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.55 Teleshopping 5.55 ITV2 Nightscreen**
ITV3
11.30 Film: Holiday on the Buses (1973) **12.30 FYI Daily 12.35 Film: Holiday on the Buses** (1973) **1.15 Film: Carry On Abroad** (1972) **2.15 FYI Daily 2.20 Film: Carry On Abroad** (1972) **3.05 Film: Carry On Doctor** (1967) **4.05 FYI Daily 4.10 Film: Carry On Doctor** (1967) **5.05 Film: Carry On Behind** (1975) **6.05 FYI Daily 6.10 Film: Carry On Behind** (1975) **7.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Lewis**
ITV4
11.00 Pawn Stars 1.30 ITV Racing Live from Musselburgh and Haydock Park. Coverage of today's race meetings at Musselburgh and Haydock Park. **4.00 Film: The Land That Time Forgot** (1975) **5.00 FYI Daily 5.05 Film: The Land That Time Forgot** (1975) **5.50 It's Not Rocket Science 6.55 Fierce 7.55 River Monsters 9.00 Film: Clear and Present Danger** (1994) **10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 Film: Clear and Present Danger** (1994) **11.50 Film: Awake** (2007) **12.55 FYI Daily 1.00 Film: Awake** (2007) **1.35 Fifth Gear 2.25 Hogan's Heroes**
E4
12.30 The Goldbergs 3.00 Film: Evolution (2001) **5.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Taken 2** (2012) **10.50 Gogglebox 12.50 Celebrity First Dates 1.50 Naked Attraction 2.50 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 3.35 Gogglebox**
Film4
11.00 Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **1.00 Home Alone** (1990) **3.10 Stuart Little** (1999) **4.50 Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (2009) **6.45 The River Wild** (1994) **9.00 X-Men: First Class** (2011) **11.35 The Windmill Massacre** (2016) **1.15 Resident Evil: Apocalypse** (2004) **3.25 Close**

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CHOICE



Rowan Atkinson

Maigret's Night at the Crossroads (TV, 8.00pm)
The detective interrogates a mysterious Dane who has been caught with the dead body of a diamond dealer in his car, and who proves entirely resistant to his questioning. Maigret is convinced his suspect's sister may know something, but soon discovers that everyone in the small rural town where they live is hiding something. Guest starring Tom Wlaschiha (Game of Thrones) and Kevin McNally (The Pirates of the Caribbean movies). With Rowan Atkinson, Lucy Cohu, Shaun Dingwall, Mark Heap, Leo Staar, Aidan McArdle, Mia Jexen, Stephen Wright, Robin Weaver, Ben Caplan, Catherine Kanter and Paul Chahidi.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** BBC News. **10.00** Easter Day Service – Live from Hereford Cathedral. **11.00** Urbi et Orbi. **11.25** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.15** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** Regional Programme. **2.15** Film: Cool Runnings. (1993) Fact-based sporting comedy, starring John Candy. **3.50** Spring: Earth's Seasonal Secrets. **4.50** Lifeline. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Galapagos. (R) **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Matt Baker takes part in a pace egg rolling challenge in Lancashire and meets an artist who decorates eggs for a living, while Anita Rani follows a walk through the region's hills set up to commemorate the witch trials that occurred 400 years ago. Steve Brown visits Brockholes nature reserve in the hope of seeing boxing hares, Adam Henson goes shopping for pigs, and Tom Heap reports on an MRSA outbreak in Denmark. Including weather for the week ahead. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce returns for a second episode from Pembroke Castle in West Wales. Items brought in to be valued include a sapphire ring that changes colour in different light, a papal hat that once belonged to Pope Pius XII, and a collection of Anglo-Indian paintings from 1780 that were once used to decorate a village's scout hut. **9.00** Line of Duty. The AC-12 investigation intensifies in light of recent developments, and new forensic anomalies lead the detectives to a major breakthrough. Meanwhile, Nick Huxtable comes under scrutiny. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents highlights of the day's Premier League action, featuring West Bromwich Albion v Liverpool. **11.30** I'm Different: Let Me Drive. An autistic driver passes his test, but finds his parents do not want him to drive on his own, so takes a pass plus test. Another learner tries to keep her twitches under control. **12.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.30 The Beechgrove Garden. **7.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.00** Countryfile. (R) **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Track Cycling World Championships. **2.15** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of the second session on the second day. **6.00** Inside the Factory: Shoes. Gregg Wallace visits the UK's largest sports shoe factory to see how 3,500 pairs of trainers are made every day, before meeting the man who comes up with the latest designs. Cherry Healey gets hands-on in a tannery, helping to process thousands of rawhides into finished leather for the nation's shoes, and finds out how a ballet company painstakingly create 250,000 ballet shoes per year. Ruth Goodman reveals how, when the sewing machine was first introduced into shoe factories in the mid-19th century, traditional shoemakers went on strike to rebel against joining a restrictive production line. (R) **7.00** Robot Wars. Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon present the grand final between robots Altershock, Eruption, Ironside 3, Concussion, Carbide and an unconfirmed wild card. Last in the series. **8.00** Top Gear. Chris and Rory take a road trip across Cuba, Matt LeBlanc test drives the Mercedes-AMG GT R, and Ross Noble is this week's Star in a Reasonably Fast Car. **9.00** Colombia with Simon Reeve. The presenter explores the country as 50 years of civil war draws to a close, meeting farmers in need of government support and guerrilla fighters who have pledged to lay down arms. **10.00** Film: At Any Price. (2012) Premiere. A farmer and his rebellious race driver son are forced to pull together as the family business comes under a series of threats. Drama, starring Dennis Quaid and Zac Efron. **11.40** Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad introduces the evening session on day two at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, which featured two matches in the first round, involving Marco Fu and Mark Allen. **12.30** Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.30** Countryfile. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Oddbods. (R) **7.05** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: NinjaGo: Masters of Spinjitzu. (R) **8.20** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! **8.45** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Weekend. **10.20** Judge Rinder. (R) **11.25** Wild Australia with Ray Meads. (R) **11.50** ITV News; Weather. **12.00** Film: Thunderball. (1965) **2.35** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **4.00** Little Big Shots. (R) **5.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.15** ITV News; Weather. **5.30** Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule. (R) **6.00** The Voice: The Winner's Story. A celebration of this year's winner of the talent show, looking back at their appearances in the series and catching up with them in the aftermath of their success in the final. **7.00** Five Gold Rings. Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield, in which two sisters take on a married couple to answer visual questions by placing rings on an LED floor. Last in the series. **8.00** Maigret's Night at the Crossroads. The detective interrogates a mysterious Dane who has been caught with a dead body in his car in a rural town – but finds all the locals seem to be hiding something. **10.00** ITV News; Weather. **10.20** Lethal Weapon. As Riggs and Murtagh examine the murder of one of LA's fashion expeditors, they follow a trail of evidence that leads them to a dangerous underground investigation led by the DEA. (R) **11.10** The Nightly Show Best Bits. Highlights of the seventh week of the entertainment show, with Jason Manford presenting a mix of topical monologues, studio games, celebrity guests, stand-up and video clips. **11.40** Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the 20th round of fixtures, which included Harlequins v Exeter Chiefs, Bristol v Wasps, and Northampton Saints v Saracens. **12.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Cube. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** The King of Queens. (R) **7.00** The King of Queens. (R) **7.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Ice Age: The Great Egg-Scapade. (R) **1.00** Film: Hop. (2011) Part-animated comedy, starring James Marsden. **2.50** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live Build-Up. Previewing the third round of the season. **3.50** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live. Coverage of the third round of the season (Start-time 4.00pm). **6.15** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live Reaction. Steve Jones presents reaction to the third round of the season, which took place at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir. **6.45** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Kevin McCloud's Escape to the Wild. Kevin travels to Central America to meet British family-of-five the Atkinsons, who have quit London to live a simpler existence in the rainforests of Belize. As he attempts to understand their motivations for the move, he suffers from the heat, is attacked by swarms of biting insects and shares his mud hut with a large scorpion, but begins to appreciate the rewards of a simple jungle life, one in which they've constructed a two-storey building entirely from recycled rubbish. (R) **8.00** Rome's Sunkin Secrets. Documentary exploring the underwater ruins of an ancient Roman city located in the Bay of Naples, revealing how the volcanic landscape led to its destruction. **9.00** Homeland. Dar scrambles to get his plan back on track. Saul and Keane deal with some fallout from her interview, and Carrie realises that she and Quinn must act fast. Last in the series. **10.10** Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R) **11.05** Film: East Is East. (1999) Two Asian teenagers in 1970s Salford are horrified when their traditionally minded father plans arranged marriages for them. Comedy drama, starring Om Puri and Jimi Mistry. **1.00** Film: Kingpin. (1996) **3.00** Gillette World Sport. **3.30** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **3.55** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R) **4.10** Four in a Bed. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Pip Ahoy! **6.10** Mr Men. **6.20** Moby. **6.30** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **6.45** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.00** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.10** Only the Little White Van. **7.20** Little Princess. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.45** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.15** Peppa Pig. **9.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.20** Funnies! Falls, Falls & Flops. (R) **10.45** Grannies Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **11.45** Playful Pups Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **12.45** Film: Watership Down. (1978) Animated drama, with the voice of John Hurt. **2.30** Greatest Animated Movies. (R) **5.20** Film: Oliver! (1968) Musical, starring Ron Moody. **8.00** Naughty Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. Compilation of internet videos featuring cats doing bizarre and humorous things. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** The Prince Story: Icon, Genius, Slave. Documentary exploring the singer's troubled private life, exploring the emotional turmoil that inspired some of his most famous songs. The programme examines some of the more unusual incidents in his career, including his failed marriage and changing his name to a symbol, as well as the circumstances that led him to die alone. **11.05** Film: Purple Rain. (1984) A talented but arrogant musician with a troubled home life tries to make a name for himself and win the heart of a fellow singer. Musical drama, with Prince and Apollonia Kotero. **1.10** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Body of Proof. Part two of two. Megan finds a bomb implanted in Dr Wallace's latest victim and receives a phone call telling her to bring the device to a rendezvous point or Lacey will be killed. (R) **4.00** Criminals: Caught on Camera. The use of CCTV in policing large crowds and bringing rioters to justice. (R) **4.50** House Doctor. A West Midlands home is overhauled. (R) **5.15** Wildlife SOS. The work of an animal sanctuary. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. Virgil gets the blame for breaking a vase. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. Maxi and Roary argue over which of them is faster. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Messiah at the Foundling Hospital
8.00 Darcy Russell's Looking for Audrey
9.00 Shakespeare's Mother: The Secret Life of a Tudor Woman
10.00 The Killer Wave of 1607
10.50 The Mystery of Rome's X Tomb
11.50 The Stand Fil Maths
12.50 Cleopatra: A Timewatch Guide
1.50 Pugin: God's Own Architect
ITV2
11.30 Britain's Got Talent
1.00 2Awesome: 1.05 2Awesome: Guidance
1.35 2Awesome: Third Wheel
1.55 2Awesome: LA Story
2.05 2Awesome: Side Effects
2.35 You've Been Framed! Gold
3.05 Film: Hotel Transylvania (2012)
4.10 FYI Daily
4.15 Film: Hotel Transylvania (2012)
4.50 Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013)
5.50 FYI Daily
5.55 Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013)
6.55 Film: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013)
7.55 FYI Daily
8.00 Film: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013)
10.00 Family Guy
ITV3
11.40 Film: Mutiny on the Buses (1972)
12.40 FYI Daily
12.45 Film: Mutiny on the Buses (1972)
1.25 Film: Carry On Dick (1974)
2.25 FYI Daily
2.30 Film: Carry On Dick (1974)
3.15 Film: Carry On Again Doctor (1969)
4.15 FYI Daily
4.20 Film: Carry On Again Doctor (1969)
5.05 Film: Carry On Up the Khyber (1968)
6.05 FYI Daily
6.10 Film: Carry On Up the Khyber (1968)
6.55 Film: That Riviera Touch (1967)
7.55 FYI Daily
8.00 Film: That Riviera Touch (1967)
9.00 Morecambe and Wise Forever
10.00 It'll Be Alright on the Night
11.00 Lewis
ITV4
6.15 Football's Greatest: Bobby Charlton
6.35 Pawn Stars
7.00 The Big Fish Off
8.00 Premiership Rugby Union
9.05 Film: The Dirty Dozen (1967)
10.05 FYI Daily
10.10 Film: The Dirty Dozen (1967)
12.10 Film: United 93 (2006)
1.10 FYI Daily
1.15 Film: United 93 (2006)
E4
11.30 The Big Bang Theory
12.30 The Goldbergs
2.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine
3.00 Film: We Bought a Zoo (2011)
5.30 The Big Bang Theory
9.00 Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.
10.00 Tattoo Fixers
11.00 E4's Tattoo Artist of the Year
12.05 Naked Attraction
1.05 Bizarre
2.05 Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.
Film4
11.40 Marmaduke (2010)
1.00 Young Sherlock Holmes (2015)
3.15 Stuart Little 2 (2002)
4.50 Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012)
6.35 Mission: Impossible 2 (2000)
9.00 Bridesmaids (2011)
11.25 Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (2014)

ADVERTISEMENT



A 'new' non-invasive, cost effective process to improve the fit of new dentures

RESURGENCE of an old idea

Ahas caught the attention of the British Dental Journal as the latest non-invasive system to secure oral prosthetics. Traditionally, patients with flat gums – often the result of the natural ageing process – always present clinical challenges in the denture prescribing process and often implant stabilisation is the solution of choice. But the Suction Cup System (not to be confused with suction valve dentures) is the latest hot news in denture provision and it's now available at the Denture Clinic in North Street, Dudley. The science is borrowed from the octopus – its soft suckers, of which there are many on its tentacles, combining to create an extremely firm grip.

which continues to attract patients from all over the UK and beyond, says: "We have tooled up for this new process and it's a great addition to a wide range of solutions already available at the Denture Clinic. Full potential "Having our own laboratory, staffed with very talented technicians, allows us to explore the full potential of this revived technology, which was originally patented more than 100 years ago. "We have thoroughly researched the process, and manufacturing these prosthetics with their multiplicity of tiny soft suction cups presents it's own challenges. It does, however, deliver a new, non-invasive alternative for denture wearers. Many of whom present every week with examples of how ill-fitting prosthetics have stopped them eating properly, eroded confidence compromised their lifestyle. "The common problem is that the vital oral structures for normal denture retention have been lost and for those people these so-called 'octopus dentures' may offer a solution. "We are very pleased to offer this treatment, but it must be made clear, that just like other suction denture solutions, it will not be suitable for everyone."

Suction cup dentures

'Octopus' technology offers hope on stability problems

Cups for the dentures are moulded into a traditional-looking prescription using soft silicone rubber and can benefit upper and lower teeth. They are effectively micro suckers which can be built into the denture where the soft tissue contact area is likely to offer poor adhesion. This process allows the technician to tailor the suction to match the patients gum shape and stability requirements. For the tens of thousands of people

whose lifestyle is forever compromised by poorly functioning dentures that tilt, slip and slide, the Suction Cup System offers a potential solution without surgery. There are many reasons that compromise denture retention, but the most common detrimental oral change is a wasting away of the normally raised gum profile that remains after teeth removal. The end result is a significant decrease in denture base support and ability to retain

the prosthesis. While it is possible to surgically enhance the gum profile and/or place implants, not all patients are surgical candidates, or indeed, wish to be. A clear indicator of whether dentures fit correctly is the amount of fixative used, how many times it needs to be reapplied during a day and critically, whether you have confidence in your teeth. Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) (GDC 108353), principal of the clinic



Predictably reassuring

Want to know more? Book in for a complimentary first consultation.

- Suction dentures • Complete dentures • Partial dentures • Copy dentures • Implant-retained dentures • Repairs service • Relines • Soft linings

For appointments at all clinics call 0800 0285185

5 North Street, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 7DT www.denture-clinic.co.uk



Denture Clinic also located at: Richmond House 112 Richmond Road, Wolverhampton, WV3 9JJ



Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



HALESOWEN, Mendip Road £695 pcm+Fees
●●●UNDERGOING A RE-DEVELOPMENT●●● A spacious 3 bedroom semi detached home on the Squirrels Estate in Halesowen/Haley Green, being double glazed and centrally heated throughout. Being located on this popular estate the property would make an ideal family home and has accommodation to comprise a hall, lounge, dining kitchen, 3 large bedrooms, house bathroom with shower off the lags, parking and garage. MINIMUM CONTRACT 12 MONTHS. EPC: D



CRADLEY HEATH/OLD HILL, Reddall Hill Road£675 pcm+Fees
An immaculate 3 bedroom modern semi detached property benefiting from: Entrance hall, lounge, lovely fitted kitchen with appliances, downstairs w.c., 3 bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, front & rear gardens, allocated parking for 2 vehicles. EPC: C



QUINTON, College Road £650 pcm+Fees
Traditional 2 bedroom terraced house in a very desirable & convenient location close to shops, 24hr gym & bus route directly into Birmingham City Centre. The property has a lovely front reception room, large kitchen with dining area, utility room, downstairs w.c., private rear garden. Upstairs there are 2 good size bedrooms & a modern family bathroom with separate corner shower. Not to be missed! EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place£650 pcm+Fees
●●● THE LARGEST APARTMENT IN THE BLOCK●●● Luxurious living in Haley Green is this superb luxury first floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, a further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B



KINGSWINFORD, Camberley Road£650 pcm+Fees
A very well presented semi detached property located on the popular High Acres Estate and offering extremely easy access to schools, shops and local amenities. Large lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, lovely rear garden with decking area, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage & driveway. EPC: D



BIRMINGHAM, St Pauls Place£625 pcm+Fees
A part furnished ground floor studio apartment in St Pauls Square. The apartment features access via secure concierge entrance, hallway, fitted bathroom suite with shower over bath, bedroom area with fitted wardrobes and chest of drawers, open plan kitchen/lounge area with sofa and fitted appliances, including fridge, oven, hob and washing machine. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Brett Young Close£625 pcm+Fees
An impressive 2nd floor apartment within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre. This modern apartment features 2 double bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, spacious open plan lounge/kitchen, bathroom with shower, allocating parking. Also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. MINIMUM CONTRACT 12 MONTHS. EPC: B



HALESOWEN, Foxhollies Drive£575 pcm+Fees
A modern semi detached property in cul de sac location. A short distance from Halesowen and the number 9 bus route, this home features a lovely living room, fitted kitchen, 2 good size bedrooms, modern bathroom with 'P' shape bath and shower, garage, driveway for 2 cars, front and rear gardens. EPC: C



WORDSLEY, John Street £575 pcm+Fees
A stunning 3 bedroom terrace property featuring a new upstairs bathroom and a new kitchen with patio doors leading into the garden. Two reception rooms and new windows and carpets throughout complete the property. This is a superb family home which offers a long term rental. EPC: TBC



ROWLEY REGIS, Halesowen Street£575 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished end terraced property within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. This lovely house features a spacious living room, fitted kitchen, conservatory, downstairs w.c., 2 large double bedrooms, 2 en-suites. Benefits include gas central heating, double glazing, 1 parking space only, rear garden. EPC: C



ROWLEY REGIS, Mincing Lane£575 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished traditional 3 bedroom semi detached house in a popular location, which is ideal for local shops, bus links and the M5 J2. This family home features entrance hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, upstairs bathroom, front & rear gardens, gas central heating, double glazing and on road parking. EPC: C



CRADLEY HEATH/OLD HILL, Clifton Street£550 pcm+Fees
Within walking distance to Old Hill shops and local train station. A well presented unfurnished modern mid terrace house benefits from gas central heating, lovely living room, fitted dining kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, 2 allocated parking spaces. EPC: C



BRIERLEY HILL, Foxdale Road£525 pcm+Fees
Been freshly redecorated and within a 5 minutes drive of Brierley Hill town centre & few minutes more from Merry Hill shopping centre, is this unfurnished semi detached back to back house, comprising of: 2 bedrooms, house bathroom with shower, nice sized lounge, fitted kitchen, allocated parking space, front garden. EPC: TBC



ROWLEY REGIS, Truro Close£525 pcm+Fees
●●● 1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE ●●● Ideal for access to the M5 J2, Rowley Regis Train Station and local Shops. This lovely unfurnished or part furnished semi detached back to back house features living room, fitted kitchen with fridge freezer, 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, house bathroom (NO SHOWER), gas central heating, front & side gardens, allocated parking space. EPC: TBC



CRADLEY HEATH/OLD HILL, Pear Tree Lane£495 pcm+Fees
Modern 1st floor apartment situated on a popular development. Within walking distance to Old Hill train station and Old Hill shops, the property has its own front door and comprises of: 1 large double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen with small fridge, bathroom with shower, parking space, own rear garden, unfurnished. EPC: B



HALESOWEN, Hamilton Avenue£475 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished, modern, spacious ground floor flat on this popular estate and briefly comprising: open plan living room/ fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, allocated parking, communal garden. EPC: C



BRIERLEY HILL, Bell Street£465 pcm+Fees
Conveniently located for Brierley Hill Town Centre and Merry Hill Shopping Centre. A lovely ground floor apartment set in quiet surroundings. This lovely apartment featuring a modern fitted kitchen, 2 large double bedrooms, spacious lounge, modern bathroom with shower, allocated parking. Available now and not to be missed. EPC: TBC



CRADLEY HEATH/OLD HILL, King Street£435 pcm+Fees
A wonderfully unfurnished ground floor flat within walking distance to Old Hill shops and train station. This property comprises of a light and airy living room, fitted kitchen with a washing machine, 1 double bedroom and shower room. Benefits include electric storage heating, communal gardens, allocated parking. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Pippin Avenue£425 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished, modern, spacious ground floor flat on this popular estate and briefly comprising: open plan living room/ fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, full double glazing, parking space. MINIMUM CONTRACT OF 12 MONTHS. EPC: D



STOURBRIDGE, Stamberrill House£425 pcm+Fees
Fully refurbished apartments within a stones throw of Stourbridge Town Centre and on the number 9 bus route. This stunning 1 bedroom apartment on the 1st floor features an open plan lounge/fitted kitchen, shower room, 1 double bedroom & private rear parking. Not to be missed! EPC: C



LYVE/STOURBRIDGE, High Street£375 pcm+Fees
In the Centre of Lyve which is ideal for buses, shops and Lyve Train Station. This spacious 2nd floor apartment features a lovely lounge, 1 double bedroom, bathroom, modern and contemporary kitchen/ diner, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking. EPC: E

PROPERTY



Deceptively spacious home with garage at the head of a cul-de-sac is now on the market

Delightfully presented, this deceptively spacious home in Britannia Gardens, Rowley Regis, lies at the head of a cul-de-sac.

It is for sale through Taylors at £275,000.

Featuring gas central heating and oak-style double glazed windows, its accommodation briefly comprises

**ROWLEY REGIS
£275,000**

an entrance vestibule, a good size dining room, a study/office, a cloakroom with a WC, an excellent sized lounge, a large double glazed conservatory, a most attractive

re-fitted kitchen, a fitted utility, a four decent-sized bedrooms, an en suite shower room, a very attractive house bathroom, driveway parking and attractive rear garden.

The agents are expecting a lot of interest in this charming property.

Contact 01902 880888 or visit www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk



Well-presented and extended three-bed semi-detached home can be moved into fast

Ready to move straight in to, this well presented and extended traditional three-bedroomed semi-detached property in Flavell Street, Woodsetton, Dudley, is for sale through Wakeman at £139,950 with no chain.

Its accommodation briefly comprises a storm porch, entrance hall, cloakroom/WC, lounge, living room, breakfast area, kitchen, landing, bathroom, gardens,

**WOODSETTON
£139,950**

parking and a garage. In more detail this home occupies a level plot in a popular and well established residential area, between Sedgley and Dudley.

It is well placed for a wide range of amenities and is within easy

commuting distance of most major West Midland commercial centres.

The greatly improved accommodation requires a personal inspection to be fully appreciated.

The lounge has an ornate feature fireplace with a marble inset and hearth and living flame gas fire, a bay window and laminate flooring.

For further information call 01384 459999.

Oldbury



Birch Grove

- * Detached Bungalow
 - * Living Room
 - * Dining Room
 - * Two Bedrooms
 - * Shower Room
 - * Side Garage
 - * Landscaped Gardens EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £259,950**



Oldbury



Hamilton Street

- * Semi-detached House Planned on Three Floors
 - * Breakfast Kitchen
 - * Lounge/Dining Room
 - * Master Bedroom with En-Suite
 - * Two Further Bedrooms
 - * House Bathroom
 - * Off Road Parking EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £209,950**

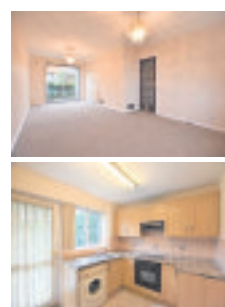


Oldbury



Warwick Close

- * End Terraced House
 - * L Shaped Living Room
 - * Re-fitted Kitchen
 - * Two Bedrooms
 - * Shower Room
 - EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £124,950**

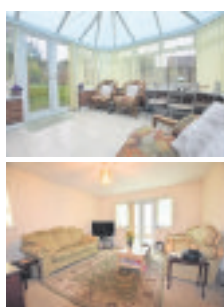


Oldbury



Hanover Gardens

- * Modern semi-detached bungalow
 - * Well proportioned accommodation
 - * Two bedrooms
 - * Shower room
 - * Conservatory
 - * Detached garage
 - EPC=C
- Offers in excess of £180,000**



Oldbury



Farm Road

- * Spacious Terraced House
 - * Three First Floor Bedrooms
 - * Well Proportioned Refitted Bathroom with Shower Cubicle
 - * Two Reception Rooms
 - * Extended Kitchen/Breakfast Room
 - * Rear Garden EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £149,950**



Oldbury



Perry Court Hagley Road West

- * Self contained retirement flat
 - * Living room
 - * Kitchen
 - * Two bedrooms
 - * Bathroom
 - EPC=C
- Offers in excess of £70,000**



Stourbridge Wollaston



Belfry Drive

- * Detached House with Off Road Parking
 - * Conveniently Situated for Wollaston Village
 - * Three Bedrooms
 - * En-suite Shower Room
 - * Living Room and Kitchen/Breakfast Room
 - * Downstairs wc
 - * Off Road Parking EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £255,000**

Cradley Heath



Upper High Street

- * Of interest to investors.
 - * Two self-contained flats.
 - * Comprising bedroom, bathroom and lounge/kitchen.
 - * Let on Assured Shorthold basis.
 - EPC=E & C
- Offers in the region of £110,000**

Halesowen



Land Rear of

- 59 & 60 Goodrest Avenue**
 - * Residential Building Plot
 - * Planning permission granted
 - * Provision of 4 bedroom detached house
 - * All enquiries Quinton office Ref MS.
- Offers in the region of £125,000**

Quinton



Conway Avenue

- * Traditional Style Semi-Detached House
 - * Full of Potential
 - * Two Reception Rooms
 - * Kitchen/Breakfast Room
 - * Three Bedrooms * Shower Room
 - * Garage
 - * Extensive Rear Garden EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £229,950**

Stourbridge Hagley



Kidderminster Road

- * An Impressive & Spacious Period House
 - * In Need of Refurbishment & Full of Unspoilt Features
 - * Semi Detached with Six Bedrooms & Bathroom * 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Off Road Parking
 - * Pleasant Gardens EPC=G
- Offers in the region of £375,000**

Halesowen



Hope Street

- * Spacious Self Contained First Floor Maisonette
 - * Three Bedrooms
 - * Good-Sized Living Room
 - * Garage In Separate Block
 - * Pleasant Rear Garden
 - EPC=C
- Offers in excess of £110,000**

Quinton



High Street

- * Deceptively Spacious Extended Four Bedroom Semi Detached
 - * Two Reception Rooms
 - * Kitchen/Breakfast Room
 - * Bathroom
 - * Ensuite Shower Room
 - EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £255,000**

Halesowen Romsley



Romsley Hill Grange Farley Lane

- * Ground floor apartment
 - * Kitchen/dining room
 - * Two Bedrooms
 - * Living room
 - * Re-fitted shower room
 - * Communal gardens EPC=E
- Offers in the region of £199,950**

Stourbridge



Wollaston Road, New Wood,

- * An improved detached family house with open aspect
 - * Four bedrooms with two en-suites and bathroom
 - * Dining area, lounge leading to conservatory
 - * Fitted kitchen, utility and cloakroom
 - * Garage
 - * Landscaped garden, gas boiler heating radiators
 - * A must view property EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £489,950**

Oldbury



Kingsway

- * Modern three storey family home
 - * Four good sized bedrooms (master with en-suite)
 - * Through living room
 - * Kitchen/dining room
 - * Garage
 - * No upward chain EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £265,000**

Halesowen



Wall Well

- * Detached two bedroom bungalow
 - * Lounge with conservatory opening to garden
 - * Fitted kitchen/breakfast room with host of appliances
 - * Well appointed bathroom with both bath and shower
 - * Detached garage and parking space
 - * Double glazed windows
 - * Internal inspection recommended EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £230,000**

Halesowen



Gleads Croft

- * Ideal opportunity for first time buyers
 - * Price details a full share however a 25% is available on a shared ownership basis.
 - * Semi detached house
 - * Two bedrooms
 - * Kitchen/breakfast room
 - * Off road parking and car port EPC=E
- £130,000**

Quinton



Ridgacre Road West

- * Extended 3 bedroom semi-detached.
 - * Extended kitchen
 - * Utility and downstairs WC
 - * Through lounge and additional reception room/potential bedroom four
 - * Garage
 - EPC=E
- Offers in the region of £209,950**

Halesowen



Manor Abbey Road

- * Superior Family Home
 - * Substantially Extended & Re-Planned
 - * Finished to a Good Specification
 - * Five Bedrooms (Two with Ensuite Shower Rooms)
 - * Wow Factor Kitchen/Breakfast/Family Room
 - * Good-Sized Rear Garden
 - * Must Be Viewed EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £530,000**

Halesowen



Victoria Avenue

- * Family house in need of general modernisation and improvement
 - * Principal bedroom with dressing room
 - * Bedroom two with study area opening off
 - * Bedroom three, house bathroom
 - * Dining hall, lounge, sitting room
 - * Kitchen/breakfast room
 - * Garage
 - * Hobbies workshop, extensive gardens EPC=E
- Offers in the region of £340,000**

Halesowen



Blackberry Lane

- * A detached family house with four bedrooms
 - * Lounge, dining room and study
 - * Principal bedroom with en-suite, house bathroom
 - * Fitted kitchen with host of appliances, utility room and fitted cloakroom
 - * Detached double garage, lovely gardens
 - * Internal inspection recommended EPC=C
- Offers in the region of £380,000**

Rowley Regis



York Road

- * Semi Detached House with Off Road Parking
 - * Living Room and Dining Room
 - * Three Bedrooms
 - * Bathroom
 - * Rear Garden
 - EPC=D
- Offers in the region of £135,000**

Quinton



Worlds End Lane

- * Semi-Detached House
 - * Situated on good sized plot
 - * Lounge/Dining Room
 - * Kitchen
 - * Three bedrooms
 - * Bathroom
 - EPC=tbtc
- Offers in excess of £135,000**

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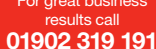
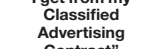
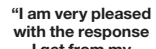
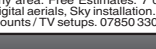
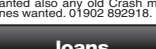
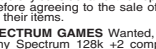
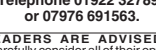
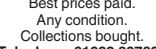
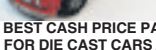
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Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219 / 07891 713547
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com



A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST
CCTV cameras fitted/v wallmount, free quote any area. 07850 330251

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £195
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12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
Over 35 years experience in the industry
All aspects of building work including:
Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
Discounts offered.
01902 579592 / 07837 994465

building supplies

QUALITY DOORS AND HARDWOOD FLOORING @ low prices.
Call Arnold Floor 0121 533 5428.

carpentry & joinery

B & S JOINERY Six internal pre-made doors fully fitted from £370.
0121 5322672 or 07958 552625.

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Days of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards £695
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

CHOOSE CLASSIFIED



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representative and I would recommend them to anyone!"
Michael - Portway Fencing.

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds

Brought to you by Express & Star

gardening services

GREENLY
Fencing Decking Slabbing Turfing
07956 584523 • 0121 550 1212

GARDENS TIDIED from £7 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086

gas fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavement. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

plastering

STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE
Clean and Reliable. All Work Undertaken. All Areas. Call 0121 567 5913 / 07777 262943

removals

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs, 07429 453209 / 01902 830670 / 01384 940260.

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gables. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

rubbish removal

LETS TALK RUBBISH No Skips Needed Load/Remove any Waste House Clearance. 07969 628382

skip hire

MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE
Save \$\$\$
All size skips and all areas covered.
Same day delivery (more than a phone call!)
Open 7 days a week
07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

4

Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information.

GRAZING AND STABLE £20pw
Westcroft area.
07956 824381.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a puppy farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

FRENCH BULLDOG puppies, 3 females, KC reg, health checked, high quality, £950. 07913 981466.

PEDIGREE LABRADOR Puppies, gold, (not KC reg), chunky boys and girls, ready to go, £500 each. 07532 177496 or 01785 712056.

RESPONSIBLE LOVING HOMES WANTED

Molly long haired beautiful german shepherd 3 years old
Dusty & Drake 12mth old lurcher x cross breed, big boys, lovely natured affectionate

Scooby 12mth brindle staffie
Layla 2yr old golden lab girl, understanding home due to past history

Bertie Mature gold labrador, deaf, active, affectionate
charlie black cocker spaniel 3 years old

Bailey golden cocker spaniel 5 years preferable home with Charlie
Annette
01686 668652

**ROSEDENE RESCUE CENTRE**

1, Radley Road, Rushall, Walsall, WS4 1LN.
01922 627013.
Open Monday to Saturday 11am - 5pm
Sundays - Bank Holidays 11am - 4pm
Takes in relinquished dogs from owners, all areas (if they are vet checked/up to date with jabs.)
Donations of dog food, toys, bedding and vet bills always appreciated.

TWO SMALL CROSS BREEDS

Very loving Mother and Daughter
Desperately need a forever home, owner no longer able to care for them.
07732 704786.

YORKSHIRE TERRIER puppies, four boys, two girls, £250 each. 07710 55932.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

NOTICE TO READERS
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

DOUBLE ROOM, in shared house, Willenhall Road, £70pw inc bills suit professionals. 07904 108847.

FURNISHED 2-bed flat very clean, all mod, working people. £485pcm Oxley area. 01902 238770.

mobile homes

HIGHLEY SHROPSHIRE
Stately 40 x 20ft, hall, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility, two double bedrooms one en-suite, fitted wardrobes, bathroom, extras, mains services, small garden, shed, residential park in peaceful location near village, no chain.
£123,950.
01746 861199 or 07848 690406.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

A very quiet park, pet friendly, short walk to shops, doctors, dentist etc with bus stop outside park, situated in Broseley, Shropshire.

The home has two double bedrooms, separate lounge, kitchen, bathroom with shower, d/g, c/h with an easy managed laid out garden, well maintained throughout.
£59,995.
01952 883554.

overseas property

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Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME! For Your House CASH

You agree the price, we buy the house.
• NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
• FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500 30 yrs

* subject to terms www.black-countryhomes.co.uk *

Wolverhampton properties

CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE

UP TO £25,000 We can buy your house in 2 days

CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)
• Free Solicitors • No Fees • Any House • Any Condition

0800 389 6788 days
01902 628047 Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week Terms applicable

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!
I pay 100% of purchase price

Call now for the best price on your house

Guaranteed offer* • Free solicitors • Terms apply
Any condition • Any condition • No fees*

24 hours Free phone or landline **0800 783 2822**
01384 226086 Dewmark Homes

pink run by women

sell quick

• No Fees* • Any area*
• Any property • Repossessions stopped
• Any condition • Deceased estates
• Free confidential service

Call free 24 hours 01922 689023
0800 044 8109

Private Investor

We are looking for houses in your area. We will take any type of property in any condition. Call us first - highest prices paid.

Telephone **07756 022973**
straight forward investment solutions

LOOK WE BUY ANY HOUSE

national homeowners helpline.co.uk

in a mess? talk in confidence we can help

WE PAY MORE ANY AREA ANY CONDITION

24-7 **0800 085 7499**
24-7 **0121 308 7786**

*Terms may apply

STOP WE PAY MORE!

100% every time* Free Solicitors No Fees* Any Property* Any Condition*

01902 628 047

* subject to terms

Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

Houses / Land Required

Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

WE BUY CASH ANY HOUSE

CALL US FREE 24 Hours/ 7days
0800 246 1047

WE OFFER £20,000 CASH ADVANCE
• NO Fees & FREE Solicitors • We Buy Any Area & Any Condition

www.ukfastsale.co.uk

Need to sell your home fast?

We can help you make a fresh start
With solutions to suit... you can clear your debts and make a fresh start

Purchase Agreed Within **7 DAYS**

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED.
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
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WHY NOT CALL US TODAY for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
0121 405 0797 *Terms and Conditions apply
OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

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"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"

Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer

For great business results call **01902 319 191**

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

CHOOSE CLASSIFIED

"We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates."

Black Country Homes

For great business results call **01902 319 191**

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Brought to you by Express & Star

MORE CATEGORIES MORE CLASSIFICATIONS MORE CHOICE

01902 317878
ClassifiedAds

7 Jobs

employment wanted

EXPERIENCED Bricklayer seeks employment.
07341 021774.

hair & beauty

GENTS HAIRDRESSER (Barber required)
Also School Leaver for Apprenticeship
Quinton
Tel 0121 422 4104

full time - general

EXPERIENCED FULL TIME FLORIST - Blackheath area. Call 0121 559 1046 / 07530 284133

adamjonesgroup

We currently have a number of vacancies for **Skilled HGV Mechanics**

We operate a mixed fleet of rigid and artic vehicles and various types of trailers. Vacancies are available on night shifts (plus rotation options).

Essential skills / experience

- Must have experience of maintaining / repairing HGVs / trailers
- MOT knowledge essential
- Knowledge of ancillary equipment desirable (Tail lifts, electrical etc)
- Must have a driving licence, HGV preferable
- Commercial awareness and a good understanding and experience of a busy garage environment
- Safety aware and committed to a right first time ethos
- Enthusiastic, with the ability to work in a team and on own initiative

In return for your commitment:

- Competitive hourly rate of pay • Full time / permanent
- Training and development

Please email CV to adam.jones@adamjones.co.uk

1000s OF JOBS AT YOUR FINGER TIPS

Register your CV today, visit:

jobs.expressandstar.com

WE CAN HELP YOU FIND YOUR PERFECT JOB!

- CV UPLOAD
- JOB ALERTS
- CV MATCHING

Our services based in the West Midlands area have the following vacancies at our residential and supported living homes based in the Wolverhampton, Stourbridge, Halesowen, Dudley and Coventry areas.

SENIOR SUPPORT:
The applicants will have 2 years minimum experience and NVQ Level 3 or be working towards this qualification £9 per hour, a potential salary pro rata of £18,460 (inclusive of sleeps)

SUPPORT WORKERS DAYS & NIGHTS:
We currently have vacancies for daytime support workers and night support workers, day support workers will also be required to cover 1 sleepover per week, no experience is necessary as an extensive training program will be provided Starting on £7.60 per hour moving to £8 per hour after training, potential annual salary pro rata £16,640 (inclusive of sleeps)
Bank Holiday Incentives

Please call our main office on 01384 421460 for an application pack, this can be emailed or posted to you

We provide residential care, supported living and domiciliary care for people who present with challenging behaviour patterns

ASR ASSURE RECRUIT

WANTED!

Customer Service & Sales Partners required in Cradley Heath up to £26,000 basic!

Please call 01892553370 or email luke@asure-recruit.co.uk for more information

RYDALE CLEANING SERVICES

Require **Cleaning Personnel**

to professionally clean Conservatories, Windows and Driveways.

Experience a benefit but not essential as full training will be given. Full driving license required. Goods rates of pay.

Telephone 0121 559 4211
Or email reception@rydalewindows.co.uk

Express & Star

FIXED PRICE RECRUITMENT PACKAGE

FILL YOUR NEXT VACANCY WITH OUR BRONZE FIXED PRICE RECRUITMENT PACKAGE

Bronze package includes:

- 5cm x 2 column advert in Express & Star (Thursday)
- 5cm x 2 column advert in Chronicle of your choice
- Two week listing on jobs.expressandstar.com
- 5 line advert to appear in Express & Star Classified jobs for 5 nights
- We will run the lineage and online advert on a daily basis until you fill the vacancy

Package Price **£399***

Contact **Tracey Thompson** on **01902 319645** or email tracey.thompson@expressandstar.co.uk



*All prices are subject to VAT

8

Motoring

cars under £1500

MUST BE SEEN

CITROEN C2 1.6VTS

05 reg., black, long MoT, very good condition, usual extras.

£895 ono

07874 870104.

LOOK

FIAT PANDA

06 reg, long MoT, good body, excellent runner, 115,000 miles hence the price of

£650 ono.

Telephone 07810 590427.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

HONDA HRV 4 WHEEL DRIVE

2001, 8 months MoT, towbar, etc.

One owner from new.

£995 ono.

Telephone 07850 233858.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

HYUNDAI GETZ

1.1 GSi 5dr

2006 registered 55 plate
In red with Service history

1 former lady keeper

12 months MoT

Fantastic condition.

Only £895.

07399 675758.

EXCELLENT CONDITION

JAGUAR X-TYPE

2.0 V6

65,000 miles,
gun metal grey,
automatic,
excellent condition,
MoT'd,

£1,100 ono

07986 736203. 01902 530538.

NISSAN MICRA

CELEBRATION

998cc,

W Reg., PAS,
sunroof, 12 months MoT,
51,000 miles,
fsh, very nice economical car.

£585 o.n.o.

07976 776856.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

PEUGEOT 106 1.6

X reg, 2000, low mileage, very clean, very reliable, one owner, MoT August, absolute bargain.

£425.

Telephone 07982 402246 (Dudley area).

IDEAL FIRST CAR

PEUGEOT 106

5dr, 2002, 52 reg.,
one former keeper,
65,000 miles,
excellent condition,
some service history,
MoT November, PAS.

£695 ono

07923 132859.

LOOK

PEUGEOT 307HDI

Silver, 146,000 miles, MoT August, good condition,

£400 ono.

07913 671164



PEUGEOT 406 SALOON

2002, 90,000 Miles, Silver, abs,
electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, MoT,
metallic paint, pas, diesel,
Stereo, spots, Alloy Wheels

£500

07799 378190



RENAULT CLIO

Dynamique 16v

53 plate, 5dr hatchback, petrol,
black, 2 owners from new, MoT,
only 44,000 miles, FSH, new
tyres, very reliable, very good
condition.

£999.

07778 145597.

MUST BE SEEN

TOYOTA AVENTIS T3-S

NH05 WSV

Silver colour, 5dr, 1.8cc petrol,
94,000 miles, part history, new
battery, new Dyanmo, two keys,
MoT.

£695 ono.

07424 633816.

BARGAIN

TOYOTA COROLLA 1.4

2002, metallic silver, 108,000
miles, long MoT, aircon.

£575 ono

07857 065473.

SORRY TO SELL IT

TOYOTA STARLET

1332cc, 1999, 71,000 miles,
red, manual, 5 speed,
3-dr hatchback,
MoT, extremely reliable with
nearly new tyres.

Reluctant sale.

£575.

01562 741287.

cars over £1500

LOW MILEAGE

CHEVROLET SPARK LT,
Blue, 1.2 engine, petrol,
35000 miles, hpi clear, full
service history, well looked
after, all receipts kept, air con,
alloy wheels, CD and MP3
player, ipod plug, electric
mirrors, all electric mirrors,
climate control, traction control,
cheap on fuel.

£3,999.

07851 378721.

LOW MILEAGE

FORD FIESTA 1.2

64 plate, Navy blue,
13,000 miles, 1 years MoT,
3-dr, petrol, 1 previous owner,
FSH,

£5,995 ono.

07867 601027.

MUST BE SEEN

FORD KA

59 plate,
low mileage,
fsh,
reliable,
low tax,
8 months MoT.
£1,900.
07948 519022.



MERCEDES BENZ SLK230SE

2002, 40,000 miles, Special
Edition, hardtop convertible,
silver, air con, fsh, MoT, auto,
cruise control, alloys, leather
interior, excellent condition.

£4,250.

07866 580990.

PRESTIGE

MERCEDES SL350 AUTOMATIC CONVERTIBLE

54 reg, 74,000 miles, FSH,
Obsidian Black, with cream
leather, keyless go, power
hood, panoramic glass roof,
anti roll bar wind deflector,
alloys, sat nav, Xenon lights,
2 keys.

Absolutely pristine.

£9,999.

07836 204450

07545 601552.

MUST BE SEEN

MINI COOPER S

2004/54 plate, six speed, grey,
half leather, CD, air con,
alloys,
new discs and pads,
MoT October, HPI clear,
clean car,
£2,500.
07546 779139.
Van or large 4 x 4 in
exchange.



RENAULT CLIO DIESEL

Hatchback DCi 90

Dynamique Media Nav Energy
white, 2014, 5dr, 1500cc, FSH,
immaculate condition, tax free,
eco 2 model, low mileage
17,700, stop/start.

£8,195 ono.

07919 527106.



VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI

2009, 51,000 miles, black, abs,
electric windows, alarm, long
MoT, central locking, CD,
petrol. Drives great.

£3,250 ono.

07855 023492.



VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 DESIGN

Red, automatic, 43,000 miles,
07 plate, air con, electric
windows, 3 door, alloys, new
tyres, full MoT.
£2,300.
Telephone 01902 791415.

classic cars



MINI CHELSEA

1986, 49,000 Miles, red, MoT,
mini lites. Good reliable car,
excellent condition.
£3,750
01902 765944

WANTED, CLASSIC Car. Private
cash buyer. Any condition, anything
considered.
01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

commercial vehicles

VAUXHALL COMBI VAN 1.7DCi Diesel

59 reg, red, central locking,
MoT, service history, side
loading door, immaculate,
£1,550 ono.
07867 685569

motorbikes



HONDA NC 700CC

Automatic, 2013,
MoT March 2018,
just serviced,
only 8,400 miles,
full luggage including
two panniers and back box,
excellent condition.
£3,950. o.n.o.
01902 783174.

L.P.G.

KAWASKI KE125 TRAIL BIKE

1974, American Import, com-
plete, runs well, great project,
£1,050.
01902 741598.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded
that it is an offence under the Scrap
Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy
scrap cars/metal for cash.

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best
Prices Paid ELV Registered
Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or
0121 557 0400.
Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars

Used cars wanted for cash
Top prices paid, HP settled.
Buyer could call.
01562 711083 /
07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best
price for your unwanted cars/vans.
07903 549849, buyer will call.

9

Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you
may fax any advertising
requirements to
Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a
name/contact number for
confirmation of receipt)

MARY ELIZABETH ARCHER (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons
having a claim against or an interest in
the Estate of the aforementioned deceased,
late of Yew Tree Nursing Home Romley
(previously of 2 Tenter Court Halesowen West
Midlands B63 3LA), who died on 07/03/2017,
are required to send particulars thereof in
writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or
before 23/06/2017, after which date the Estate
will be distributed having regard only to claims
and interests of which they have had notice.
GEORGE GREEN LLP
195 High Street Cradley Heath
West Midlands B64 5HW

Licensing Act 2003

Notice of application for a Premises
Licence (Section 17 of the Act)
Gurpreet Sangha and Kamaljit Kaur
of 238 Hagley Road, Halesowen,
West Midlands B63 4QQ have
applied for a premises licence with
the proposed activity: Supply of
alcohol Monday to Saturday from
08.00 to 23.00 and Sunday from
12.00 to 23.00.

The full application can be
inspected by contacting the
Licensing Section between the
hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm
(Monday to Friday except public
holidays). An online summary of
the application can be viewed on
www.dudley.gov.uk

Any representations by a
Responsible Authority or Interested
Party must be made in writing
between: 1-4-2017 and 28-4-2017
to Assistant Director of Law &
Governance, Licensing Services,
Unit 1 Hurst Business Park,
Narrowboat Way, Brierley Hill,
DY5 1UF

It is an offence knowingly or
recklessly to make a false
statement in connection with an
application and the maximum
fine for which person is liable on
summary conviction for the offence
is £5,000

10 Personals

personal

ATTRACTIVE lonely Female
seeking broadminded males within
a 20 mile radius. 01902 489 181.

GENT 60'S
Own house, car,
WLTM slimish, genuine lady,
55-63

With view to long term
friendship / relationship.
Usual leisure activities
alternatively companion for
nights out, holidays etc.

Box Number P20764,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENTLEMAN
Would like to meet another
Gent for friendship, holidays,
fun and outings.
Box Number P20759 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SNooker Player
REQUIRED
By retired Gentleman to meet
up for weekly games.
Box Number P20760 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

PENN COLTS FC
5 / 7 A-SIDE
TOURNAMENT
U7'S minor - 8 / 10 / 12 / and
14's
Saturday, July 1.
U7'S / 9 / 11 / 13 / 15.
Sunday, July 2.
For all application forms
visit
www.penncolts.co.uk
or call 07748 677682.

general

RETIRED ELDERLY GENT
Late 70's widower, ex masseur
and photographer, very young
at heart, own home and car
owner, would like a elderly lady
pen pal, 60 plus, likes to talk and
write, all worldly subject, must
be down to earth, with a view life
is still for living and likes to write
all experiences, maybe meet up
some time, Stourbridge area.

Box Number P20761 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

RETIRED ELDERLY GENT
Late 70's widower, ex masseur
and photographer, very young
at heart, own home and car
owner, would like a elderly lady
pen pal, 60 plus, likes to talk and
write, all worldly subject, must
be down to earth, with a view life
is still for living and likes to write
all experiences, maybe meet up
some time, Stourbridge area.

Box Number P20761 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

RETIRED ELDERLY GENT
Late 70's widower, ex masseur
and photographer, very young
at heart, own home and car
owner, would like a elderly lady
pen pal, 60 plus, likes to talk and
write, all worldly subject, must
be down to earth, with a view life
is still for living and likes to write
all experiences, maybe meet up
some time, Stourbridge area.

Box Number P20761 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



LADY, 60, TALL

Would love to meet genuine
man good sense of humour to
enjoy meals out, days out,
nights in, holidays.
Genuine replies only.

Photograph please.

Box Number P20763 ,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



LADY 70

With GSOH and young
outlook.

Looking for male or female
friend for days out, holidays,
etc.

Cannock area.

Photo appreciated, will return.

Box Number P20

Kia's new efficient hybrid Niro really fits the family bill



Kia Niro First Edition

By Sharon Walters

It hardly seems a blink since Kia entered the world of the hybrid with its launch of the Niro late last summer.

Kia's first ever dedicated hybrid and first ever hybrid in the UK met with mainly high approval, and that was due to a number of things.

One of the most important factors was that Niro is not based on any other Kia but is a dedicated hybrid model developed from scratch on an all-new platform which will only ever be used for electrified vehicles. That means the design works very well unlike others which are tacked onto platforms developed solely for fossil fuel power. It also arrived with an all-new powertrain – a 1.6-litre, 104bhp internal combustion engine and a 43.5bhp electric motor driving through a six-speed double-clutch automatic transmission. Nice package.

Priced from £21,295, Niro combined the ever-increasing demand for compact crossover design with the low emissions and high fuel economy of a hybrid car. It arrived with CO2 emissions as low as 88g/km and fuel economy of up to 74.3mpg – and that was achieved thanks to helping Kia towards meeting its pledge to reduce the average emissions of its range by 25 per cent before 2020.

There are four versions of the Niro, called '1', '2', '3' and First Edition and all share the same engine and gearbox. However if you choose grades '3' or First Edition they have 18ins alloys instead of the standard 16-inchers and therefore emit more CO2, plus they use more petrol in the official test (64.2mpg plays 74.3mpg).



Kia Niro First Edition

All versions have dual zone automatic air conditioning, all electric windows, DAB radio, USB and AUX ports, trip computer, cruise control and Bluetooth connectivity.

Move to level '2' (£22,795) and additions include a reversing camera and satellite navigation, while the £24,695 grade '3' brings a bigger touchscreen and powerful JBL sound system.

Top of the range is the £26,995 First Edition which adds active cruise control, automatic emergency braking, electric sliding sunroof, leather trim and heated seats – front and rear, with a cooling facility in the two at the front. There's also the usual Kia seven years/100,000 mile warranty.

There's plenty of space inside which has a high quality finish with a wide dashboard and an upper display sector which houses the instrument panel and infotainment screen. Below is a second control area which includes heating, ventilation and driver assistance.

On the exterior there are those crossover design lines bordering on a hatchback. There are subtly sculpted surfaces and sharp lines marking Niro out as a modern Kia, and includes the Korean brand's 'tiger-nose' grille as well as the familiar broad C-pillar. A wide stance gives pointers to the car's stability and low centre of gravity, while a long bonnet, short overhangs, elevated headlights and a rising shoulder line are other Kia hallmarks. There is body cladding beneath the front and rear bumpers, along the sides and around the wheel arches. A subtle roof spoiler aids the car's aerodynamics. In fact it is a very smart car and easy to spot in a car park.

Back to the economy and that is down to you the driver. You don't even have to try to hit a figure of more than 40mpg on the motorway and if you do try a figure of almost 60mpg is easy. Over 70mpg can also be achieved if you try very hard!

Niro will manage short distances on battery power alone but for the majority of the time, the two systems work together with the battery recharging itself as you slow down and the electric motor turns itself to braking. And what is remarkable is that even with both power sources working, the car is adequately fast with no intervention from you as the gearbox chooses the right ratio for you!

I drove the Kia Niro 1.6 GDi HEV '2' DCT 6-speed on a wide variety of roads in good and absolutely atrocious weather conditions. Economy, road holding and comfort in this hybrid were excellent. If you want a family car with all of that, Niro fits the bill.

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Future is electric with Skoda Vision E

Škoda's appearance at the Shanghai Motor Show later this month is characterized by electric change: With the Vision E study, the company provides its first brand-specific outlook on the future of individual mobility.

The emotionally designed five-door SUV coupé can travel up to 500 kilometres on purely electric power and meets the level 3 requirements for autonomous driving. Škoda is intensively pursuing the electrification of its model range, and will be offering five purely electric models in various segments by 2025.

Tomorrow's mobility – planning and development is in full swing at Škoda. The first purely electrically driven and autonomous driving concept car in the company's history embodies the brand's interpretation of electric vehicles.

At 4,645 mm long, 1,917 mm wide and 1,550 mm tall, the Škoda Vision E has great road presence. Thanks to the long wheelbase of 2,850 mm, as well as the short overhangs at the front and rear, the designers have created an extremely spacious interior – as always with Škoda. In the future-oriented vehicle concept, the elevated seating position typical of SUV models and the generous space combine with a dynamic silhouette and gently sloping roof line in the style of a coupé.

Thanks to the system output of 225 kW, the Škoda Vision E accelerates instantaneously and dynamically. The top speed is 180 km/h (112mph). The powerful lithium-ion batteries and optimal recuperation allow a range of up to 500 kilometres (311 miles).

Thanks to intelligent management, the two electric engines cooperate with maximum efficiency and drive the Škoda Vision E over



Generous space combines with a dynamic silhouette



The car has a gently sloping roof line in style of a coupé

all four wheels. The front- and rear-wheel drive is suitably adjusted to ensure the highest degree of stability, dynamism and safety at all times.

With the Vision E, Škoda is also providing an outlook on the forms of autonomous driving coming soon. According to the latest surveys, around 15 percent of all new cars could be

driving completely autonomously in 2030.

The concept car Škoda Vision E achieves the prerequisites for level 3 autonomous driving: It can operate independently in traffic jams, go into autopilot on motorways, stay in lane and swerve, carry out overtaking manoeuvres, independently search for free parking spaces and park and leave parking

spaces alone. To enable this, various sensors with different ranges and numerous cameras constantly monitor the traffic situation.

Electromobility plays a key role in the company's global growth strategy. Škoda develops its own vehicle concepts for purely electric mobility on the basis of the MEB Group platform.

The electrification of Škoda's model range will begin as early as 2019 with the launch of the Škoda Superb with plug-in hybrid drive.

Škoda's first purely electric series-produced vehicle will be released shortly afterwards in 2020. By 2025, the brand will have expanded its range to include five purely electric cars in various segments.



The five-door coupe can travel up to 500 kilometres on purely electric power

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Elaine Mills coaching youngster



Abbey Hargreaves shows off her medals



Success – girls line up with their medals



Some of the members with coaches in the middle Sara Zollino, Lucia Zollino and Elaine Mills



Coaching session with Sara Zollino

Bloxwich hit form to floor their rivals

BLOXWICH Gymnastics Club are jumping for joy following a golden display in the West Midlands Gymnastic Association's George Finney Championships.

The club returned home from Fenton Manor in Stoke, where over 1,000 youngsters competed, with a hat-trick of gold medals and a silver after a brilliant series of displays on the vault and floor exercises.

A total of 26 Bloxwich members competed in the Potteries with Abbey Hargreaves striking gold in the under-13 individual event while the club's under-13 and under-11 beginners also stood on top of the podium. Freya Jackson rounded off a brilliant day by picking up a silver in the under-11 category.

Coach Elaine Mills, who runs the club with the help of her daughter, Sara, and granddaughter, Lucia, was full of praise for the youngsters but had to admit the success came as something of a shock.

"It was quite a shock actually," said Mills, who has been coaching for over 30 years. "We were hoping to win a couple but didn't expect them to be gold.

Specific

"The kids work really hard, and my daughter and granddaughter have trained them hard in their specific moves. The did present themselves really well on the day and worked really hard.

"We were there from 7.30 in the morning to 8.30 at night. It was a very long day and instead of them doing one age group at a time they mixed the age groups around.

"So you had to wait for the organisers to announce who was in the running to finish in the first three. But they didn't give you the order. So we knew we were in the running but when they announced the golds at the end it was a pleasant shock."

The medal haul added to the feelgood factor at the club, where membership is rising with demand leading to an increase in classes.

Mills is keen to stress that enjoyment is the main objective at the family-run club.

"I have been coaching nearly 40 years and I am helped by my daughter and granddaughter," said Mills, who also carried the Olympic torch during the build up to the 2012 Games in London.

"We are a recreational club, which means anyone can come along and have a go. They don't have to pass any sort of qualifying agenda. The main thing is enjoyment.

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"We are a recreational club, which means anyone can come along and have a go. The main thing is enjoyment"

"For the West Midlands Championships any child who wanted to enter could. We didn't choose or select. Then we put the ones that wanted to enter into teams in terms of their ability and we happened to have some good teams. They all worked really well."

The club has found some much-needed stability after a series of name changes and moves and are based at the Rye-croft Community Hub in Walsall.

"Originally we were Cannock Gym Club, then we were Moat Hall and now we are Bloxwich Gym Club, which has been in existence probably four years," continued Mills. "This particular success is the first one we have had as Bloxwich. We did used to win a few things years and years ago.

"We have had a lot of disturbance with trying to get places that would store our equipment.

"We had to go from one place to the other and then we went to Bloxwich Leisure Centre and that was pulled down, so we had to find another place which was Ryecroft. A lot of schools are not community schools so they don't want to open at night or store your equipment."

And with a waiting list, Mills and Co will be introducing extra sessions.

"The classes are on Wednesdays at the moment but that will be expanding to Tuesdays as well after Easter because we have got a waiting list," added Mills.

"We cater for children from five up to 18.

"The club is thriving, the membership has increased year on year.

"It's mainly been through word of mouth but hopefully our recent success will encourage more youngsters to join.

Anyone wishing to join the club should call Elaine Mills on 07971 378425.

Success on track tinged with tragedy

THE opening British Superbike weekend was packed full of tremendous highs for Staffordshire and Black Country riders – but will ultimately be remembered for tragedy.

A multiple motorcycle accident during the opening Ducati TriOptions Cup race at Donington Park ended with Mick Whalley, of Sheppey, Kent, suffering serious injuries, from which he eventually died. Leicestershire Police and the Motorcycle Circuit Racing Control Board are investigating.

On the track, Brierley Hill-born Michael Rutter, aged 44, got his BSB season under way with two third-placed finishes in Superstock 1000cc Championship, racing fourth in another.

Hednesford twins Kurt and Matt Wigley enjoyed their 'usual up and down weekend' as numerous mechanical issues were mixed in with some positive lap times. The 20-year-olds are battling on two fronts this year, with Kurt in the Supersport and Matt in the Superstock 1000 series.

Josh Hiatt, 13, from Heath Hayes, banished his debut BSB nerves to come away with very positive 12th, 10th and 15th place results in the KTM British Junior Cup.

The BSB series now move to Brands Hatch, Kent, this weekend.

Triathletes face an uphill task in sprint

BLACK Country Triathletes faced an uphill battle in the Sandwell Hill Horror Sprint aquathlon at Hayden Hill. The killer hill course comprised 400m pool swim followed by a four-lap course of the park.

Ollie Mason was first home for the club in 28:34, finishing sixth overall. Zoe Brickley was the first female home. Several junior athletes took on the hilly course, Zach Taylor, Noah Sandland, Tom Hipwood and Cian Gopal in the TS3 age group. For the girls Sydney Williams and Jenny Price.

In the TS2 category were Alex Westbury, Abbie Kennard, Isabell Mason Rosie Briscoe and Leah Gopal, while at TS1 was Scarlett Williams.

New BCT member John Tibbetts celebrated his 50th birthday with his first open water triathlon in Hawkes Bay, New Zealand. Despite a longer swim due to disorientation in open water, John made up time on the bike and run and finished in 1:25:28 and 32nd overall.

In the British Schools Biathlon Championships at Crystal Palace, which involves swimming and running with a rest in between each discipline, Zoe Brickley came seventh out of 27 in the u-16s, Holly Briscoe 49th out of 83 in the u-13s, Abbie Kennard 44th of 147 in the u-12s and Rosie Briscoe 56th of 162 in the u-11s.

Neal spins out in seasonal opener

STOURBRIDGE'S Matt Neal is 11th in the British Touring Cars Championship standings following the season opener at Brands Hatch.

Halfords Yuasa Racing driver Neal span out in the first of three races after colliding with Colin Turkington's BMW. He then finished 11th in the second race and fourth in the last.

Neal's good friend and team-mate 'Flash' Gordon Shedden – who claimed a third BTCC crown at the end of the 2016 campaign – tops the standings.

Tom Ingram, who won the opening race, is second and Andrew Jordan – who won the last one – is in third.

On spinning out in the first race, Neal said: "It's probably the shortest race I have ever done. I got a bit of wheel spin off the start – the start wasn't bad – and Colin seemed to get a blinding start from behind me.

"We then went for a gap which was ever decreasing.

"Whether he tried to punch his way through a hole or not, I don't know – but it didn't work."

Three-time BTCC champion Neal will hope to fare better and jump up the standings at Donnington Park on Saturday and Sunday.

Sport

SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

Head over heels, gym club floors its rivals

Page 35



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Victory but injury jinx strikes again

Ilkeston 1 Stourbridge 2

STOURBRIDGE got a nervy win at Ilkeston with a goal in each half to beat the home side, who were relegated after this loss.

The Glassboys are still in a play-off place but need to keep winning to consolidate it, with some of their rivals having games in hand.

They took the lead on six minutes when a ball from Luke Benbow saw Ethan Jones beat the Ilkeston 'keeper to the ball and he got enough on it for it to go into the net.

Jones nearly made it two on 12 minutes but his shot hit the keeper's foot and Benbow and Brad Birch shot wide as Stourbridge toiled in vain.

They were made to rue missed chances on 33 minutes when Daryl Westlake was adjudged to have fouled Tom Gamblen in the area and Anthony Dwyer made no mistake with the spot kick.

Broken

Just before half time, Stourbridge's injury jinx struck again when Richard Sho-Silva suffered a broken jaw after a clash of heads with team mate Kayelden Brown and was taken to hospital. He remained in hospital in Derby overnight and will miss the rest of the season.

In the 59th minute Kennedy Digie latched onto a long 'Tom Tonks' throw into the box to score after a goalmouth scramble.

Benbow also went close and substitute Jordan Archer should have done better late on from close range but scuffed his shot wide.

Better news for Gary Hackett's side, who sit fourth in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier Division, is that defender Dan Preston and midfielder Leon Broadhurst should return to action his weekend.

Sweet return for Perry as Heathens take bragging rights

CRADLEY Heathens are expecting a bumper crowd for their Bank Holiday Monday clash with Mildenhall at Wolverhampton, 7.30pm.

The club announced over the weekend all children aged 12 and under will be admitted free.

They pulled off a hard fought win at Birmingham last Wednesday after seeing off King's Lynn in style on opening night. And whilst it's very early, the signs are encouraging and big winter signing Danny Ayres believes the team will only improve as the season progresses.

He said: "We are here to do a job and will not rest until we see it through."

Ayres has formed a formidable partnership with Tom Perry at the top end of the team.

"Let's hope we can make it three wins on the trot against Mildenhall on Monday. I'm ready for them and the rest of the boys are too," he added.

Former Brummies loanee Perry made a stunning return to former club Birmingham by helping Cradley to a West Midlands Trophy win.

Hospice is winner at charity golf day

MARY Stevens Hospice is the winner from SDL Bigwood's annual charity golf day

SDL Bigwood's annual golf day raised a fantastic £3,159 for Mary Stevens Hospice.

The event, held for the 14th year at Edgbaston Golf Club, was won by Stourbridge-based Hayburn Rock Financial Planning and traditionally the victors get to nominate the charity of their choice.

The team comprised Stephen Perks, managing director, Richard Chapman, Daryl Chance and Brian Flint.

Mr Perks and Rory Daly, chief executive of SDL

Golf

Bigwood, presented a cheque to Alex Winstanley, corporate engagement officer for Mary Stevens Hospice.

The hospice offers specialist care for people living with cancer and other life-limiting illnesses, as well as dedicated support for their families and carers.

It is currently seeking to raise £3 million to expand its day unit facility.

Stephen Perks, Hayburn Rock, said: "We are pleased to nominate Mary Stevens Hospice as the

recipient of this charitable donation.

"We have a close association with the charity and see first-hand the tremendous work that they do. Thanks also to SDL Bigwood who have made this donation possible by organising such a great event."

Rory Daly, SDL Bigwood, said: "Hayburn Rock have been great supporters of our Charity Golf Day over many years and we are delighted that they won."

"Furthermore, their choice of Mary Stevens Hospice as the beneficiary of all the monies raised went down very well with everyone here."

VICTORY KEEPS OLD HALES SAFE

Old Halesonians 33 Derby 24

OLD Halesonians ensured they are safe from relegation with this bonus point win in the penultimate league fixture.

The Hales team saw a couple of changes with coach Ben Hughes in as second row and Callum Young brought into the back row.

Also Old Hales had the Colts' Tom Warrington at scrum-half and Ben Homer on the wing started with Josh Woodward and Harrison Plumb on the bench.

Early exchanges favoured Hales with some dominant forward set pieces. Warrington adapted well and gave Steve Powell at fly-half regular ball to feed the backs.

A move up the right wing involving Ben Barkley and Carl Robinson resulted in support by Callum Young and a well-worked unconverted try in the corner to lead.

Hales were again on the attack with passes from Warrington to Powell to Barkley, who broke through the defence. Smith supported and sprinted for a try, converted by Chris Hooper.

Forced

Derby forced a penalty to pull back to 12-3 at half time but from the restart Hales again pushed, making ground through Barkley, Hooper, Smith and Robinson. Hales camped in the Derby 22 with dominant scrums.

Young found Hughes as the pack gathered and drove for a deserved pushover try by no8 Jay Martin, converted by Hooper to lead 19-3. After the restart Derby returned the pressure. A charged down kick by Hooper gifted a try to the visitors and this was followed by a penalty for Derby for a high tackle to pull back to 19-11. Hales were on the back foot and conceded another try and penalty during the fightback to 19-19.

Matt Young came on as prop for Matt Probert and Plumb for Rich Sawyer. Hales regrouped and always looked dangerous. A driving maul saw Hooker Sam Jones over for a try, converted by Hooper. Smith intercepted and sprinted the field for a breakaway try 33-19 but Derby would not give up, regrouped and finished with a try.

Hales' last league game is at Lichfield on Saturday, 3pm.

OSH see off late rally to lift bowl



OSH players and staff lift the under-18s NatWest Bowl at Sixways Stadium

OLD Swinford Hospital are celebrating after winning the u-18 NatWest Bowl Final. They beat St Olave's Grammar School 25-13 at Sixways Stadium.

The Stourbridge school qualified for the national final following wins over Gloucester, Sussex and Surrey. The final felt more like a home game for OSH as many of the players have connections with Worcester Warriors through their EPDG outreach programme.

A huge number of travelling supporters including current and former pupils, staff and parents turned out to cheer the boys on.

Worcester Warriors players, and former OSH students, Chris Pennell, Sam Ripper-Smith,

Max Stelling and Huw Taylor supported from the stands. Pennell, who captained the OSH 1st XV in 2004 before joining the Warriors, presented the boys with their match jerseys prior to kick off.

OSH led 13-0 at half-time and Tobi Costello crashed over after the break. But St Olave's staged a magnificent comeback.

After a well-worked try, OSH centre Hugh Peel was sent to the sin bin and on his return, team-mate Finn Bridgewater was binned. With St Olave's playing against 14 men they scored again and kicked a penalty in the last five minutes to make it 18-13. But OSH rallied and Charlie Simmonds made the game safe.

Lights out, point gained

Ilkeston Town 0 Halesowen Town 0
HALESOWEN Town played out a goal-less draw at Ilkeston Town in a game was more notable for a 20-minute delay due to floodlight failure than any of the action.

The lights went out on 25 minutes, prompting a pause in the action whilst the problem was fixed. It was not the first time this season at the New Manor Ground that this has happened, with the already relegated team enduring a torrid season on and off the field.

Before the unexpected break, Halesowen had started the brightest in a scrappy opening, Ethan Delaney, Bradley Taylor and Kartel O'Neill Martin seeing shots easily saved by Ilkeston keeper Jamie Hannis.

After the restart the play was scrappy, a number of speculative shots going over the bar, with a free-kick from Yeltz again saved by Hannis, and that was the nearest either team went to scoring.

Blyth Spartans 3 Halesowen Town 0
Halesowen failed to act as party poopers as Blyth secured the league title and promotion to Conference North. But the good news is that at the other end of the table Halesowen are now safe, with Frickley Athletic losing on the day.

It was a depleted side who travelled to the North East and Blyth who made the running from the start. Dan Platt had to be alert in the early stages to twice deny the home side but dominance was rewarded in the 18th minute when Luke Armstrong scored.

Platt brilliantly denied Dan Maguire to keep Yeltz in it at the break but on 50 minutes it was 2-0 when Reid headed home a corner, and then made it three with 12 minutes to go.

Lions ready to roar into higher league

STOURBRIDGE looked sharp at times but couldn't sustain the intensity for 80 minutes and came away with little more than a suntan as they lost 36-24 at Hinckley.

But Stour's Nathan Tinsley, Billy Harding, James Otutaha bagged tries with Chris Scott and Luke White adding extras. Hooker Luke Colman added the bonus point try.

Stourbridge Lions, after a 37-19 demolition of leaders Leek, stand on the edge of the most momentous point in their history - promotion to Midlands 1 is just a match away. Winning at Newcastle on April 22 will mean them playing Dudley Kingswinford and Hereford next season.

Saturday's game was a wonderful advert for Midlands 1 West rugby with 10 tries. It was a game of two halves, DK were 26-14 up at half time, and the second half was 22-3 to Stratford, as the Warwickshire side won 36-29.

★★★

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Cousins' Spring Sale starts this Bank Holiday weekend, be early to take advantage of extra discounts off all sale prices throughout the stores. Plus pay nothing until next year, no deposit, interest free.



£749 Biba 4 seater sofa (including cushions)
Normal £1099 Sale £849

EVERYTHING REDUCED

LIVING. DINING. BEDROOMS. CARPETS. BEDS. HOMEWARES.

Cousins

PAY NOTHING UNTIL NEXT YEAR • NO DEPOSIT • INTEREST FREE CREDIT



£499

HALO INDUSTRY DINING TABLE
Normal £679 | Sale £579

HALO
ESTABLISHED 1976

SPRING SALE

EXTRA DISCOUNTS

OFF ALL SALE PRICES

This Bank Holiday

SAVE
£400



£899

REVIVAL LEATHER 3 SEATER SOFA
Normal £1299 | Sale £999



complete
the
look

At Cousins you can
accessorise every
room in your home.

£179

LOUIS LEANER FULL
LENGTH MIRROR
(69" X 35")
Normal £349 | Sale £199



£59

METAL SKELETAL
WALL CLOCK LARGE
(70.50 x 70.50cm)
Normal £79 | Sale £64

£79

TRIPOD FILM
FLOOR LAMP
Normal £129
Sale £99



KNITTED POUFFE (MED)
Normal £79 | Sale £69

£59

Swivel
action



REVOLVER LEATHER CHAISE SOFA
(WITH SWIVEL ACTION)
Normal £2099 | Sale £1599

Denby Amieco G Joseph Harrison DURESTA

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

LOW SALE PRICES. PAY NOTHING UNTIL

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Watch us on YouTube
www.youtube.com/CousinsFurnitureUK

At Cousins this Bank Holiday, there's extra discounts off all sale prices for the start of the sale only.

Visit the Midlands' largest and most inspirational furniture stores with huge reductions on every single item, there's never been a better time to save on furniture, carpets, beds, homewares and much more, including all the famous brand names.

Buy now and pay nothing until next year - not even a deposit - interest free.

£449

HEMINGWAY KING SIZE
FABRIC BEDSTEAD
Normal £699
Sale £449



£699

BONITA 3 SEATER SOFA
(DOUBLE RECLINERS)
Normal £1039
Sale £799



SAVE
£550

£1149

GRACIE 4 SEATER PILLOW BACK SOFA
(INCLUDES CUSHIONS)
Normal £1699 | Sale £1299



ALF UNO
ITALIA

£1399

BELLINO EXTENDING DINING TABLE
Normal £2079 | Sale £1599



CHELTENHAM BEDROOM -
RECLAIMED PAINTED WOOD

£499

DOUBLE BEDSTEAD
Normal £799 | Sale £699

WARDROBE **£649**
CABINET **£129**



UNIVERSAL RUG (150 X 230CM) **£229**
OVERSIZED SKELETAL WALL CLOCK **£89**

£849

Ovation CORNER GROUP
(INCLUDES CUSHIONS)
Normal £1399 | Sale £949

IMMEDIATE
DELIVERY



HALF
PRICE

£749

JOANNA MARBLE DINING TABLE AND 4 CHAIRS
Normal £1499 | Sale £899



£129

KAVALI 5
DRAWER CHEST
Normal £179
Sale £149



**Choice.
Quality.
Value.**

Whether your taste is contemporary, traditional, modern or classical, Cousins have the answer.

The Spring Sale brings many new and exciting collections all at their famous low sale prices.

The choice is enormous, all beautifully displayed in truly inspirational room settings.

£59

FRIENDSHIP BENCH
Normal £79 | Sale £64



famous
brand
names

Joseph
Joseph



SAVE
25%

£1399 ★

Fama. TEMPUR. WELLS & GAMBRELL. Parker Knoll. Karndean

NEXT YEAR. NO DEPOSIT. INTEREST FREE.

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

SPRING SALE
EXTRA DISCOUNTS
OFF ALL SALE PRICES

This Bank Holiday

£949

CONCERTO KINGSIZE BEDSTEAD
Normal £1399 | Sale £999

SAVE
£450

£449

KENT DOUBLE WARDROBE
Normal £899 | Sale £599

£169

KENT BEDSIDE CABINET
Normal £329 | Sale £219

£599

KENT 2+4 DRAWER CHEST
Normal £949 | Sale £639

SAVE
35%

FREE FITTING AND UK DELIVERY

nolte
möbel

BEDS & BEDROOMS

Cousins bedding and bedroom departments are immense – more than twice the size of most bedding specialists.

They offer unrivalled choice, quality and value, including all the famous brand names, there's every style and size.

FLOORING

Cousins have extensive flooring departments featuring all the leading brands and latest designs. Whether you want carpets, rugs, hard, natural or wooden flooring their experts are on hand to guide you.

Creative Floorings & Rugs by
CRUCIAL TRADING

Harrison

£999

HARRISON AUSTWICK 6700
POCKETED SPRING KING SIZE
4 DRAWER DIVAN
Normal £1599 | Sale £1199

REST
ASSURED

£449

REST ASSURED MEMORY 800
DOUBLE 2 DRAWER DIVAN
Normal £649 | Sale £499

Silentnight

£549

SILENTNIGHT MOONSTONE
MIRACOL DOUBLE 2 DRAWER DIVAN
Normal £799 | Sale £599

Cousins

a true family business

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK | Late Nights: Tuesday & Thursday until 8pm
Bank Holiday Monday 10am - 6pm (Closed Easter Sunday)

Birmingham
Warwick Road,
Tyseley. B11 2EW.
T: 0121 765 3300

Dudley
Hall Street
DY2 8NW.
T: 01384 451500

Manchester
A57, Regent Rd,
Salford. M5 4EA.
T: 0161 875 4070

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0% APR
REPRESENTATIVE

Deferred Interest Free Credit available on all orders over £500. Subject to status. All balances must be paid in January 2018 on the date specified at the time of purchase. Written details on request. Offer not available on clearance items or in store concessions. Some items are subject to one per household and only available in limited colours, or the colours shown in this advert. Prices in this advert are valid until 01.05.17. See website for Price Promise details.

**PRICE
PROMISE**

Our price promise to you, we won't be beaten on price! *

- Free parking
- Instore restaurant
- Large stocks
- Immediate delivery

CELEBRATING
31
YEARS

TRUSTED MERCHANT
2016
★★★★★
feefo